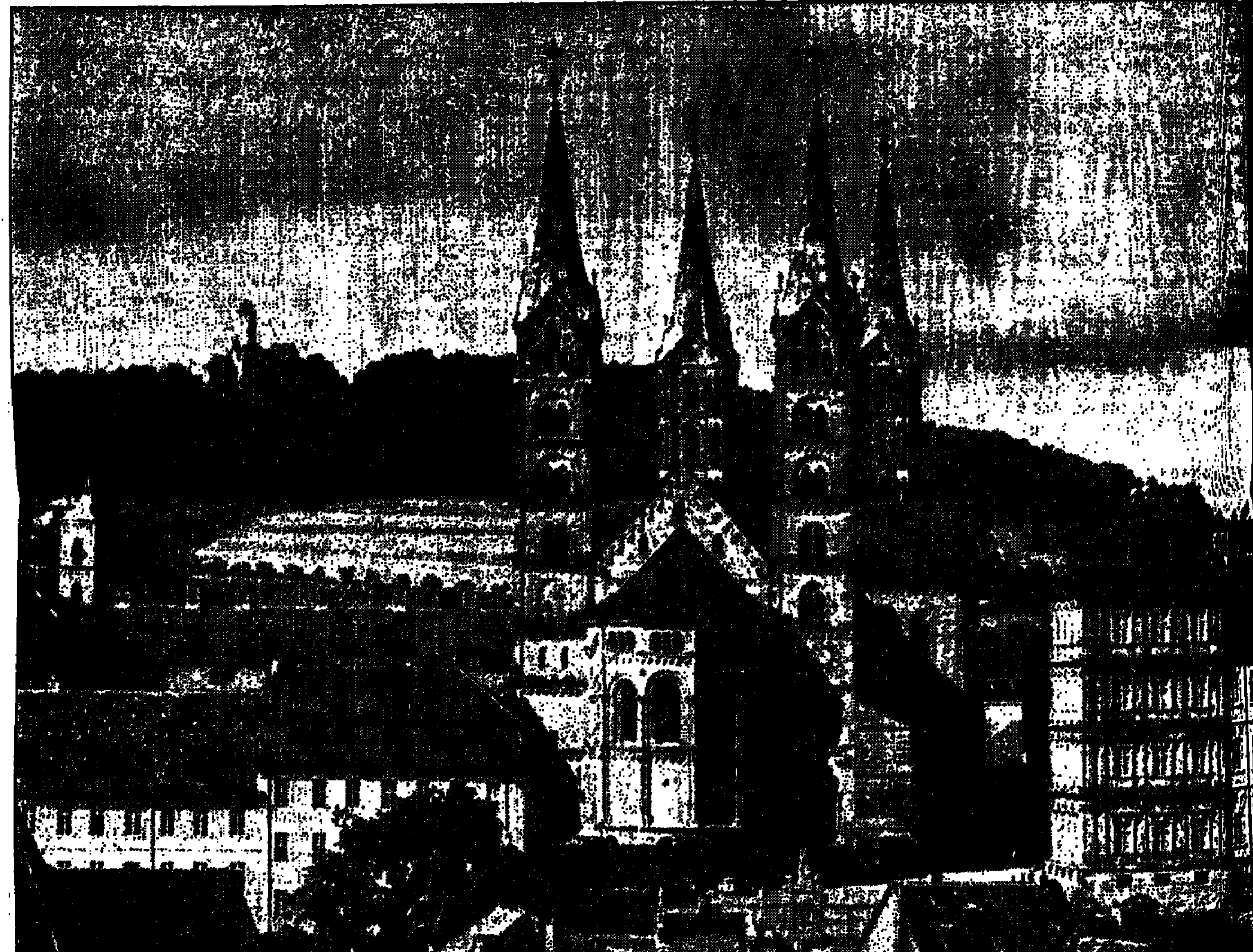
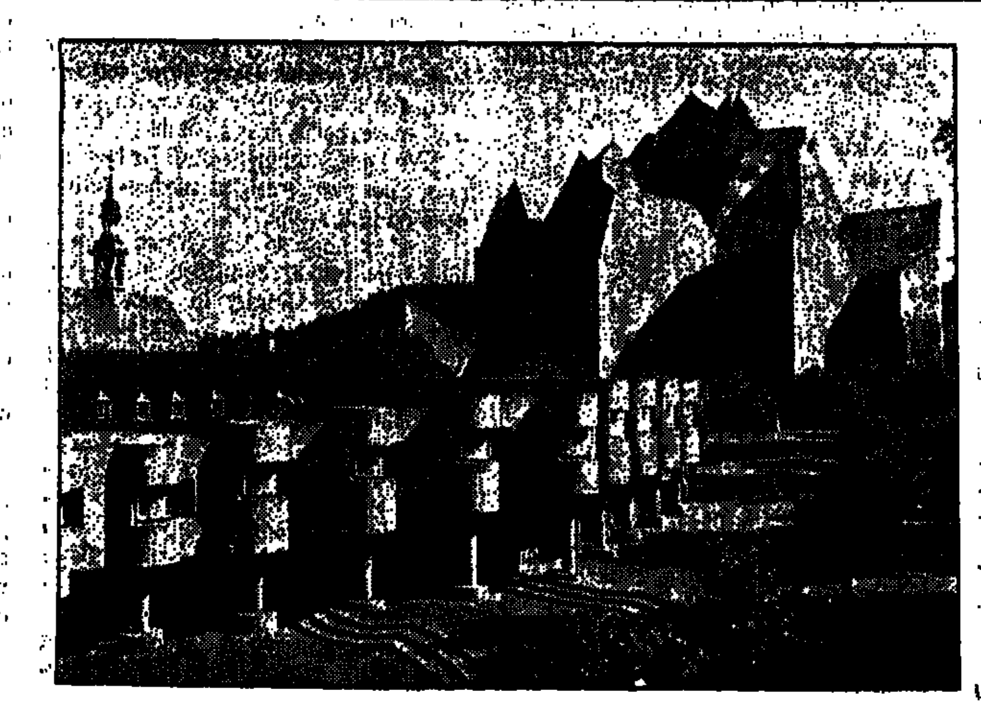
Germany's churches and cathedrals

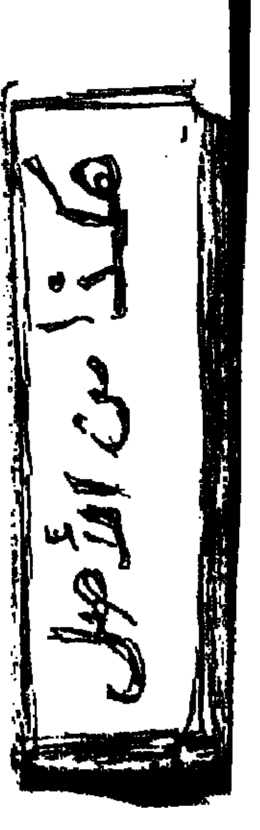
Everyone knows, of course, that in Cologne, Worms, Freiburg, Aachen, Ulm and elsewhere ancient Gothic and Romanesque cathedrals tower up like castles into the sky. Impressive structures down to the very treasures in their vaults. For even here, in this land of industry, tourism, Inter-City trains, airlines and motorways, churches, cathedrals and chapels have more than a spiritual function. They are reminders, thought-provoking. Cherished as artistic masterpieces. Take, for instance, the delightful Romanesque church in Dietkirchen on the Lahn. Or the enchanting Wieskirche, surrounded by the woods and meadows of the Alpine foothills in Upper Bavaria. Clear, serene, rococo splendour. Just two examples from many thousands. "Churches," as James Joyce wrote in 1915 on a Rhine journey, "like miracles from heaven."





Bamberg, Bavaria

Velbert Neviges Church in the Ruhr



The German Tribune

...burg, 16 August 1981
...tieth Year - No. 1000 - By air

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Bonn draws up plan for world peace

...n has visions of a world at peace, ...ithout nuclear weapons and means ...ss destruction, with armed forces ...quipment solely to maintain public ... and individual safety at home, ...ed with a strong US peace-keeping ...

...se are the aims of a comprehen... disarmament programme the Bonn ...nment has proposed to the UN ...mament conference in Geneva.

...hey are not just the blue-eyed ...s of backroom boys. Total disar...ent is the ultimate objective of a ... and difficult, yet most realistically ...ribed process of negotiation.

...he draft is based on the final docu...t of the first special UN General ...embly on disarmament held in ...mmer 1978 which called on the ...eneva conference to draw up a ...mprehensive disarmament programme.

The task has since been tackled not ...ly by the 40 Geneva conference de...tions, including all the nuclear ...rs, and the working party delegated ...t on with the job.

...jor features of the programme have ... been drawn up by the UN disar...ent commission in New York on ...h all UN member-countries are rep...nted.

...e Bonn government submitted a ca...ue of principles to the Geneva con...nce early last month and was so ...eased by the response that it decid...o present a full programme draft.

...t was first checked with fellow-mem...s of the European Community and ...o and formally seconded by the Aus...an, Belgian, British and Japanese de...tions.

...t is based on a long-term interna...al disarmament strategy aimed at ...ual progress towards general and ...plete disarmament subject to effec... international supervision and con...

...t is also based on existing interna...al agreements such as the nuclear ...-proliferation treaty and the test-ban ...y in the atmosphere, in outer space ... under water.

...t comes in the wake of international ...ords on the use of poison gas, on ...teriological warfare and on the de...yment of particularly inhuman con...tional weapons.

The programme is intended to be no ...re than a framework for negotiations ... be held bilaterally, regionally, multila...lly and worlwide.

The basic principles envisaged are the ...intenance of security of all countries ... all stages of the disarmament process, ... special responsibility of the nuclear ...wers for nuclear disarmament and ...staking observation of the UN ...arter throughout.

Disarmament talks as visualised by ...nn are, while paying strict heed to maintaining the balance of power, to be held in a specific sequence, with priority being given to nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction.

Then, and then only, will conventional arms and troop strengths come up for negotiation.

Partial solutions and regional arrangements are to be agreed wherever prospects appear realistic. Verifiability is deemed the touchstone of all disarmament and arms control measures.

The programme provides for moves to be undertaken in phases, with various kinds of activity complementing each other at all stages.

Arms limitation or troop cut talks would be accompanied by global and regional measures, particularly for purposes of confidence-building.

Nato reports must also be compiled with a view to submitting further proposals.

Last not least, progressive implementation of the programme would be reviewed at intervals by the UN disarmament commission.

In the first stage intensive continuation and completion of current talks at all levels of disarmament and arms control are recommended.

Priority objectives at this stage will include:

- a comprehensive test-ban treaty covering the circumstances in which nuclear explosions are to be sanctioned for peaceful purposes;
- continuation of the Salt process to limit and reduce nuclear weapons and similar negotiations on medium-range nuclear missiles;
- treaties banning the development, manufacture and stockpiling of chemical and radiological weapons;
- mutual, balanced force reduction and accompanying measures in Central Europe and, wherever they may prove feasible, elsewhere in the world; and
- negotiations on effective confidence-building measures and disarmament between parties to the Helsinki accords.

This wide-ranging negotiation process would be accompanied by agreements on international measures to protect non-nuclear states from nuclear attack, by global and regional confidence-building measures, by greater transparency in defence expenditure and by effective crisis management.

Later stages of the disarmament programme are to be fleshed out as time goes by, but a number of specific steps in the direction of total disarmament have already been pencilled in.

They include further agreements on nuclear non-proliferation, on the establishment of nuclear-free zones and on a ban on the development of nuclear weapons systems.

They aim at an embargo on the production of fissile material for military purposes, and end to the manufacture and deployment of nuclear weapons and a total phase-out of nuclear arms stockpiles.

Agreements are also envisaged banning the development of fresh weapons of mass destruction, environmental changes for military purposes and an arms race in the atmosphere or on the seabed.

Peace zones are to be set up in various parts of the world. Progressive limitations are to be imposed on making, buying and selling conventional armaments, while a gradual, balanced reduction in military spending is visualised.

The arms committee is to report to the UN General Assembly this autumn. The final draft comprehensive disarmament programme will then be submitted to the second special UN General Assembly on disarmament that is due to convene in New York next summer.

In drawing up its contribution towards the debate the Bonn government has concentrated strictly on what was felt to be feasible.

In gaining acceptance of its proposals it is counting on Third World support. There has been so much fighting in developing countries that the Third World has grown increasingly interested in disarmament.

Wolf J. Bell

(General-Anzeiger, 6 August 1981)



Neutron bomb: the humane alternative.
(Cartoon: Haitzinger/Nordwest Zeitung)

Neutron bomb just tit for Soviet tat

The neutron bomb has been called a symbol of mental perversion because it destroys people while preserving materiel.

Yet as a tactical field weapon it is intended first and foremost as a defence against superior tank armies as maintained primarily by the Soviet Union.

The dispute in Europe in general and the Federal Republic of Germany in particular is based on the likely assumption that if Soviet tanks were to roll in over the Iron Curtain this is where the neutron device would be deployed.

Even if the decision is entirely up to the US government and even if the neutron bomb is to be stockpiled in the United States and not, for the time being, by US forces in Germany the debate is sure to continue.

This is partly because many German politicians stated either their own or their parties' views on the neutron bomb last time round.

That was when President Carter postponed going ahead with the device so as not to impose a burden on the talks with the Soviet Union that were then in progress.

President Reagan's decision to go ahead and manufacture the bomb tallies with his campaign pledge only to hold further disarmament talks with Moscow from a position of strength.

The Soviet government failed to reward Mr Carter's attitude. Instead it used the detente period to quietly implement its SS-20 missile programme as a political and military threat to Western Europe.

The Soviet missile programme has

Continued on page 6

IN THIS ISSUE

WORLD AFFAIRS — Page 2
Reagan's freebooting economic style not a universal panacea

REFUGEES — Page 4
The Germans who came back from Russia

FINANCE — Page 7
Oil cash, Third World syndrome intensifies

ARCHAEOLOGY — Page 10
There's gold in them thar hills — there was 3,000 years ago

EDUCATION — Page 13
Foreign students face new hurdles in university enrolment

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE is conducting a readership survey. With some issues this week a reply-paid postcard is included. Please fill it in and return as quickly as possible.

WORLD AFFAIRS

Reagan's freebooting economic style not a universal panacea

More and more people are advising Bonn to follow in President Reagan's economic footsteps.

Hansjörg Häfele, Opposition spokesman on financial affairs, for example, says:

"What we need is a programme that at least heads in the direction that is so marvellously being attempted in America at the moment."

Economist Günter Schmölders wonders, as well one may, what gave President Reagan's economic policy the momentum the Bonn government so sadly lacks.

Is it, as Professor Schmölders feels, simply common sense, which is having a renaissance in Washington while it atrophies in Bonn?

The keynote of President Reagan's programme to get the US economy back on its feet can hardly fail to appeal to the common sense of the man in the street.

A 25-per-cent cut in income tax over a three-year period must surely give private enterprise a shot in the arm and trigger a fresh upswing.

And is not the other side of the coin, a drastic cut in government spending equally sensible, given that too much government is a disincentive to personal performance?

Those who back President Reagan's policy along these lines must, of course, disregard the incredible amount of taxpayers' money his administration plans to spend on arms.

According to the latest estimates Washington is to invest a total $1,600bn in defence between 1983 and 1987. A number of German experts seem to have had little difficulty in disregarding this aspect.

President Reagan's German admirers ought not to forget either that this year alone $20bn of the cash to be used to boost the US economy is to come from swingeing welfare cuts.

The cuts range from health care to old-age pensions, while the package will only really benefit six per cent of US taxpayers, those with annual incomes of over $50,000.

The major beneficiaries will be the leading stock market-quoted companies, such as the oil corporations. By 1986 they stand to save $12bn in tax on windfall profits.

If this is all plain common sense then a US politician such as Senator Edward Kennedy must presumably be out of his mind.

Senator Kennedy has said that President Reagan's economic policies are based on the theory that prosperity can only be created by scrapping the social progress made in an entire generation.

Yet the Senator knows better than a number of Reagan fans in Germany why the programme has developed the momentum that put Democratic opposition Capitol Hill to flight.

It is a programme based on the frontier ideology of which all Americans, be they rich or poor, are proud; it resurrects a concept of government that has never existed in this form in Europe.

That is why President Reagan's programme cannot be taken over lock, stock and barrel by the Federal Republic of Germany.

In Germany the state emerged last



century as the institution that ensures that the poorer and weaker members of society do not go to the wall.

The German social security system, which will have been going for a century this November, was not set up merely as a sop to the revolutionary working classes.

It was also based on the conviction that the state had to control capitalist industrialised society if exploitation and inhumanity were not to get out of hand.

Bismarck, the Iron Chancellor, cannot be accused of undue sentimentality, yet he saw the proletariat as a virtual pillar of society.

"Why should not the soldier of labour have a pension like the soldier in uniform or the civil servant?" he asked.

This social welfare by the state is something that has never existed in the United States, where social security got off to a modest start as recently as in 1937.

It is not because Americans are particularly unscrupulous. The historical circumstances in which the USA was set up were the reason why.

North America is a vast sub-continent that was opened up by private initiative, enterprising individuals heading further and further west, pushing aside the weaker members of society as they did.

All the state did was ensure that initiative could go ahead with as little disturbance as possible and thereby develop as profitably as possible.

True enough, the Americans in this way accomplished achievements unequalled by any other nation.

Between 1850 and 1900 private railroad companies laid 250,000 miles of track on land made over to them free of charge by the US government.

The stimulus behind this private enterprise, in the course of which thousands of railroad workers died, was not public interest but private profit, albeit supervised by the state.

William Henry Vanderbilt, one of the railroad kings who in these circumstances was able to double in [...] fortune of $100m within eight [...] was a man who knew his mind.

Asked whether his railroads [...] leave him with an obligation to [...] neral public, he simply replied [...] public be damned!"

Against the background of US [...] it is understandable that President [...] agan's programme has been [...] almost without a murmur in the [...] States.

Yet it is a programme amounting [...] government withdrawal from [...] bility for the socially weak and [...] on the belief that the advantage [...] strong will in the long run benefit [...]

In the United States millions [...] ing people still have no right to [...] with pay and it is by no means [...] for someone to be sacked on [...] with effect from the following [...]

America still goes by the rule [...] formance and achievement under [...] it took over its *Lebensraum*.

But America is another world [...] formulas that are accepted there [...] even work, in terms of economic [...] ciency, cannot be taken over lock [...] and barrel in our world, the Old W[...]

In Germany President Reagan's [...] nomic policy would not only be [...] with tradition; it would also be [...] ration of war on social peace.

Hans Werner Kettenbach

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 8 August [...])

The Russian plan that never was

The Soviet concept of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe involves only concessions by Nato and neutral countries.

The Soviet Union itself would not be prepared to remove nuclear weapons from its own territory.

This has become obvious since the question was first raised by a comment from Mr Brezhnev in the Finnish Social Democrat newspaper.

The issue gained real momentum when Willy Brandt went to Moscow and returned publicly endorsing Brezhnev proposals for a nuclear-free zone.

Now, however, as the Soviet position has clearly emerged, Scandinavian left wingers, who were initially enthusiastic, are not so keen.

The issue is an odd one in many ways. Scandinavia has, for instance, always been a nuclear-free zone.

Finland, which is bound to the Soviet Union by a friendship pact, has no nuclear weapons. Neutral Sweden has none. There are none in Denmark and Norway, both Nato countries, either.

The only nuclear weapons in northern Europe are maintained by the Soviet Union, mainly on the Kola peninsula in the Arctic but also on board Soviet submarines in the Baltic.

If what Moscow wants is to scrap nuclear weapons in the entire area it can do so itself without difficulty; all it needs to do is withdraw its own nuclear capacity.

But that, of course, is not what the Soviet Union wants at all. The Soviet leaders want to negotiate a treaty by the terms of which nuclear weapons may not be based in Denmark or Norway in particular.

Einar Förde, Norway's Education Minister and deputy leader of his country's Social Democrats, has been to the Soviet capital to sound out what Moscow was prepared to offer in return.

He returned with the news that the Soviet Union was prepared to give the Scandinavian countries an assurance that there would be nuclear attack on them.

Moscow said it was also willing to discuss the inclusion of Soviet territory in a nuclear-free zone and to discuss a number of types of weapons used by the Soviet armed forces.

The first point brings to mind Talleyrand's remark that what a non-aggression pact meant was: "I will eat you up last." As for the second, it was couched in extremely vague terms.

The information Mr Förde brought back from Moscow indicate, however, that the Soviet Union was not in fact, prepared seriously to consider a nuclear-free zone extending to Soviet territory.

If the Kremlin was only prepared to discuss a number of types of weapons, the inference must surely be that other categories of nuclear armament were to be retained.

Two commentaries by *Novosti*, the Soviet news agency, have since shed more light on what Moscow has in mind.

In the first, the Soviet commentary said that if Soviet territory were to be included in a nuclear-free zone, additional areas adjoining Scandinavia in the West must also be included.

The article made a pointed reference to the fact that nuclear weapons were stockpiled only a few miles south of the border between Denmark and Germany.

This at least sounded as though Moscow would like the nuclear-free zone to be extended to include Schleswig-Holstein. These additional demands, which were totally unacceptable to the West, could by this time be interpreted as a covert withdrawal by the Soviet Union.

The second *Novesti* commentary clarified matters once and for all. This time it unmistakably said that there could be no question whatever of including [...] Kola peninsula in a nuclear-free zone [...]

So it was readily apparent the [...] zone as envisaged by Moscow was [...] to comprise neutral and Nato countries [...]

Scandinavian left-wingers, who [...] initially most keen on the idea, [...] since felt distinctly less enthusiastic [...] while Herr Brandt must feel badly [...] down by his opposite numbers in Moscow. Herr Brandt and his Scandinavian friends could have saved themselves [...] ir disappointment, however, as there [...] never any doubt as to Soviet intentions [...]

The idea of a nuclear-free zone [...] Scandinavia is nothing new. It was [...] suggested in *Pravda* in 1959, during [...] Berlin crisis.

"The establishment of a nuclear [...] missile-free zone in Scandinavia [...] be a first step by all the Nordic [...] tries in the direction of neutrality," [...] Soviet newspaper wrote.

Neutrality or non-alignment is [...] the question for the Soviet Union [...] however, and can be ruled out for [...] part of Soviet territory too.

In other words, the Soviet objective has always been to induce Denmark [...] Norway to leave Nato and thus [...] the West.

Wolfgang Wagner

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 30 July [...])

The German Tribune

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HOME AFFAIRS

Something for everyone in budget cuts

[...]n's proposed budget proposals [...]ve triggered wide protest.

[...] the fact is that the coalition has [...] to spread the effects of the cuts as [...] as possible.

[...] to judge by the wide range of [...]otests, it has succeeded.

[...]nomic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff does not think much [...] public reaction.

[...] question is: how is the economy [...] corrected without hurting anybo[...]

[...]s easy to imagine how hard it was [...]ed-in-the-wool Social Democrats to [...] to cutbacks for the Federal Labour [...], to take just one example.

[...]e extent to which the traditional [...] electorate has been hurt will not be [...]n until the legislation has actually [...] formulated.

[...]e same goes for the FDP, which [...] also been tough on its voters, for in[...]ce with the measures affecting the [...]employed and civil servants.

[...]e coalition has come up with a bet[...] package than sceptics would have [...]n it credit for. But even so, there are [...]y serious weak points.

[...]e main ones are:

- The cutbacks have fallen short of [...]get;
- Bundesbank profits are to be used [...] balancing the budget and have been [...]timated at DM6bn. But this is not a [...]easure that will improve the budget [...]ture.
- Some of the money needed is to [...]ised by an increase in tobacco taxes [...]r than by cutbacks;
- The shift of social security pay[...]ts from the pensions fund to the [...]mployment insurance reduces the [...]unt of money available for pensions [...] thus endangers the reform due in [...];
- DM1.5bn is to be saved from the [...] allowance budget, but no political [...]sion has been made on how to do [...];
- The cutbacks in the defence budg[...]ould have far-reaching consequences [...]ecurity.

[...]e question to which we have no [...] answer is: will the cutbacks change [...] structure of the budget in a way that [...] check the dynamic rise in the social [...]rity sector?

[...]is is most unlikely because, despite [...] toughness of the cutbacks for the [...]vidual, they are not tough enough.

[...]cause this is so and because the [...] have been kept down to an absolute [...]mum nobody will be able to say [...] they should not be affected.

[...]hose who protest should at least be [...] to point out those who should be [...] instead.

[...]ust saying "take it from the rich" is [...] enough. True, it would be nice if [...]ple with yachts and villas in Spain [...] ranches in South America, whose [...] would not dream of buying a [...] for less than DM1,000, were hit [...] obviously.

[...]t how is the taxman to differentiate [...]een the jet-set with its inherited [...]ey or ill-gotten gains and the hard-[...]king entrepreneur who ploughs of [...]t he makes back into his business?

[...]e should be encouraged and given [...] incentive as part of the budgetary [...]gramme. And that can hardly be done by hitting him even harder with the tax club.

The tempting idea of getting out of the dilemma by imposing a surtax on tax money owed dominated the headlines for days.

The idea comes from Labour Minister Herbert Ehrenberg and has imposed a considerable strain on the coalition. The counter arguments were so convincing that the Free Democrats refused to go along.

Psychologically, such a surtax wuld be disastrous considering the fact that the income tax is already much too high.

Moreover, this would turn a move aimed primarily at spending cuts into a move to raise taxes. If this were done, investments would drop even further and the effects on the economy would be negative, to say the least.

There is also every likelihood that the trade unions would insist on making up for the increased taxes by demanding wage increases.

This would mean that the hope of inducing the Public Sector Workers Union to extend the duration of the present pay deal would be dashed.

It is also doubtful whether a job generating programme would be of any use at this stage. To reduce unemployment we need a more optimistic economic outlook, more confidence in the deutschemark and a more competitive range of goods offered by our industry rather than government investments in the form of construction, etc.

The cabinet's intention to provide tax relief for business through better depreciation provisions worth about DM4bn over the next few years is more likely to prove beneficial on the labour market; and Count Lambsdorff's disappointment over the lukewarm reation by the business community is understandable in the circumstances.

In any event, the job generating programme is still under discussion as are the surtax and cutbacks in unemployment benefits. Thus everything remains open until 2 September.

The shakiness of the cabinet decisions is borne out by point 7 of the 13-point programme decided on on 30 July. Point 7 says in essence that, should it turn out that the individual measures cannot be realised, the departments concerned must put forward substitute proposals. This means that we could well be in for some surprises.

It is therefore understandable that the opposition's reaction was of a general nature. But its moment will come when it has to approve or oppose the measures in the Bundestag and, ultimately, in the Bundesrat.

And should the opposition say "no" it will have to come up with alternative proposals. The better does its homework now, the more convincing it will be when it comes to the crunch.

Fides Krause-Brewer

(Rheinische Merkur/Christ und Welt, 7 August 1981)

I'm afraid, Herr Meyer, that we're just going to have to take a little more off.
(Cartoon: Hanel/Rheinischer Merkur, Christ und Welt)

Quandary for all elected governments

Democratically elected governments are not exactly the best handlers of the nation's money: they tend to have the electorate in mind.

Their eagerness to please the voter is frequently at the expense of the till.

The people, on the other hand, grow used to being looked after by the state — which doesn't help the nation's economy.

Events like the oil price shock are therefore near disasters spelling the end of economic growth — for the time being anyway.

When this happens, it inevitably puts the budget figures out. And democratic governments being what they are, they carry on as if nothing had happened. If tax revenues are insufficient the state carries on with borrowed money.

This is exactly what has happened in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Bonn government dilly-dallied until it could dilly-dally no longer. When the 1981 budget came up for debate the Cabinet did nothing to remedy the situation and resorted to borrowing even more.

It was not until the 1982 budget, at a point when it was almost too late to do anything, that Bonn decided to act. But even here it lacked the decisiveness needed to put the nation's fiscal affairs in order again.

The Cabinet's target was to save more than DM 20bn but its forcefulness did not extend that far.

Some cutbacks were decided on and there was some shuffling, as for instance with the shifting of burdens for the citizen by leaving the deductions for the social security pensions as they are — again for the time being — and increasing those for unemployment insurance.

There is also a tug-of-war in progress over a surtax, but so far the coalition partners have been unable to agree and so the matter now rests until early September.

Most industrial countries face similar problems. But they differ in their approaches to their woes.

In the United States, for instance, where the people have to work four times as long as 20 years ago to satisfy the taxman, President Reagan has taken an unprecedented step and has thus triggered a wave of faith in his administration.

He has introduced the biggest cutbacks ever in government spending, pruning the budget by $40bn; and his programme passed the Senate and Congress with flying colours.

Unlike Britain's Margaret Thatcher, Reagan has opted for a forward strategy.

Massive tax reductions to the tune of 25 per cent over the next three years are meant to stimulate the economy and provide incentives.

These measures are buttressed by Washington's monetary policy with high interest rates to check inflation. Everything else is left to market forces, including the nation's unemployment problem.

Bonn's concept is entirely different. Our Cabinet insists that it must be the state that combats joblessness.

And since the state lacks the necessary money it is determined to get it from the public.

It is not too long ago that the Cabinet was agreed that no further financial burdens must be imposed on the people. But the good resolutions soon fell by the wayside.

The government simply lacks the political fortitude needed to impose even more spending cuts and so the taxpayer has to be bled again.

There are, however, indications that it was the Chancellor himself who added the surtax to the package. It appears that he was worried that the trade unions would reject the package as a whole unless they were given something to sweeten the pill. And in this case the sweetener is the surtax.

The Chancellor depends on union approval because without it he would have a hard stand with his fellow MPs, who might even refuse to go along with the package.

Though the Chancellor's tactics are quite understandable, they would be acceptable only if he managed to wrap up the package without inclusion of the surtax by September.

In that case, he would simply have used normal political tactics to achieve his aims.

But if the surtax remains part of the package the Cabinet would find itself in hot water because there are no investment projects lying ready in ministerial drawers. And the surtax is only to be used for such projects as a means of boosting employment.

Even if conditions here are different from those in the United States, so we can't do what Reagan has done, it should still be left to market forces to create new jobs.

But this would presuppose paring down expenditures still further to enable us to relieve business of some of the tax burden. In any event, surtax must go.

Rudolf Herlt

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 4 August 1981)

■ REFUGEES

The Germans who came back from Russia

Germans from Russia — the very term is something that puzzles the public here.

And when thousands of these Germans from the other side of the Iron Curtain gathered for a rally in Wiesbaden recently, carrying placards saying "National Rally of Germans from Russian," onlookers were totally confused.

Those gathered outside the Rhine-Main Hall speaking a *babel of languages* were German-Russians or Russian-Germans — depending on how you want to look at it — who had been repatriated to Germany.

But these ethnic Germans themselves have no doubts whatsoever as to their identity. They regard themselves as Germans, despite the fact that they have lived in Russia for generations.

Photographs and other descriptive material displayed in the Rhine-Main Hall during the gathering told a tale of suffering and fortitude extending over many generations.

There were maps of Russia and pictures of towns and villages with such German names as Mannheim, Landau, Glückstal, Hoffnungstal, Heidelberg, Stuttgart, Karlsruhe and Kassel, located somewhere along the Black Sea or the Sea of Azov.

The history of ethnic Germans in Russia dates back to the Middle Ages. But this particular chapter goes back to Catherine II of Russia who, in 1762, started a drive for German immigrants.

In a *manifesto* a year later, the new settlers were given land to be theirs in perpetuity. The manifesto also granted them freedom of religion, tax exemption, municipal autonomy and the right to leave the country at will.

There were several tides of German settlers, initially mainly from Hesse; then came the Mennonites from north-western Germany, the area around Danzig (today's Gdansk) and Western Prussia. They were followed by people from the south of Germany — Bavarians and Swabians — and then came the groups from Pomerania and Silesia.

These Germans settled primarily in the uninhabited areas along the shores of the Volga River and the Black Sea, on the land.

But the imperial order giving these people full rights in perpetuity was rescinded in 1871 in all its aspects except freedom of religion.

This was followed by incitement against the colonists and, when World War I broke out, by open progroms.

At the beginning of the war between Germany and the Soviet Union in June 1941, the Soviet Union began its elimination campaign against the ethnic Germans.

Tens of thousands were deported to remote areas of Siberia and Central Asia and held in forced labour camps.

Their property was confiscated and the Autonomous Socialist Soviet Republic of Volga Germans was dissolved. The Germans were treated as traitors and enemies of the people.

Though this accusation was officially withdrawn many years after war's end, discrimination remained.

The Soviet Union thus violates its own Constitution which describes it as a multinational state in which all ethnic groups are fully protected.

According to the 1979 census, there were still 1.9 million people who regarded themselves as ethnic Germans in the Soviet Union. This makes them (in terms of population) number 14 in the list of 118 Soviet peoples.

But as an ethnic group the Germans were forced to live scattered among alien peoples such as the Kirgizians, the Uzbeks, the Tadzhiks and the Turkmens.

The national identity of ethnic Germans in Russia rests with their languages, religion and culture. But they have to struggle to retain this identity.

There are no German schools left nor are there any German parishes.

The few German newspapers that remain and scattered German lessons serve only as an alibi and are intended to create the impression that much is being done for the Germans in Russia.

According to the repatriates in Wiesbaden, the Germans in the Soviet Union are discriminated against, are subject to chicanery and they are threatened and punished when they dare to demand equal rights or administrative and cultural autonomy or, indeed, just freedom of religion.

Things are even worse when they want to apply for permission to be repatriated to Germany, pointing to the solemn undertakings by Catherine II and Alexander I.

The chicanery to which Germans in the Soviet Union are submitted is demonstrated by long lists of individual destinies compiled by the repatriates. It ranges from the sudden drafting of exit visa applicants into the army all the way to their disappearance.

This persecution drive has resulted in fewer repatriates.



Mother Teresa in Berlin

Mother Teresa, Nobel peace prize winner, last month visited a Red Cross home Berlin where Sri Lankans are living while their applications for asylum ar processed. (Pho

In 1976 there were close to 10,000 German repatriates from the Soviet Union compared with not quite 7,000 last year and forecasts for this year indicate that their number will be in the region of 4,500.

The reason given by the Soviet Union is that the interest in repatriation has diminished. But the German Red Cross knows of some 100,000 applications while the repatriates' organisation estimates that more than 300,000 ethnic Germans would like to be repatriated.

In any event, only those with relatives in West Germany can even hope to get an exit visa.

The expatriates' organisation now pins its hopes on Brezhnev's next visit to Bonn when it is hoped that this country's government will once more raise the issue of family reunification.

Only last year, the Chancellor said in an after-dinner speech in Moscow: "There is still an unsolved problem between our two countries that leads to much human suffering. I mean the fate of separated families. This is a ma the heart rather than the head."

But what was said about the matter in the closing communiq so weak as to be worthless.

This history of the Germans in is a sequence of dashed hopes. Th Germany 200 years ago to escap gious and political persecution make a better life for themselves.

But no sooner did they achiev thanks to hard work, than they wa prived of the fruits of their la They were discriminated agains chased from their homes or deport

Despite their official rehabilita they have been unable to live as among equals.

Many of them hope that they last achieve this by returning to original homeland. But the prospect dim.

Bernd Erich Heptner

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung Deutschland, 5 August 1

Poles line up for a place in the West

More and more Poles are being driven to the West because of food shortages and the fears of a Soviet invasion.

A favourite haven is the Federal Republic of Germany, Hamburg is the most popular city.

Some 1,000 Poles have applied for political asylum in Hamburg since the beginning of the year, and the number is rising from month to month. Applications for political asylum stand little chance of success; but even so, no Pole will be sent back.

Sweden and Austria are also gaining in favour with Polish refugees because neither requires them to have a visa.

The Polish Refugee Council in Stockholm estimates the tide at about 150 people a day. But some 90 per cent of the applications for residence permits are rejected.

The Refugee Council has therefore called on the Stockholm Labour Ministry to take action to inform the Poles before they leave their country about the difficulties in being granted political asylum in Sweden.

And even should they be given asylum in the end, the processing of the applications takes about a year on average, during which time the refugees receive no financial support and are issued no work permits.

The Austrian refugee camp in Traiskirchen near Vienna is bursting at the seams.

According to Otto von Habsburg, who recently visited Traiskirchen, Austria can no longer cope with the flood of Polish refugees — a flood which already costs that small country the equivalent of DM150,000 a day.

Ninety per cent of these people cannot be regarded as political refugees in terms of the UN Refugee Convention, he says.

The Hamburg Aliens Department takes the same stance because the Poles who arrive here cannot be regarded as politically persecuted. Most of them come for purely economic reasons.

In April, 117 Poles filed asylum applications, In May 125 did; in June 129; and more than 200 are expected in July.

The liberalisation in Poland encouraged travel to the West; and the German Embassy in Warsaw has cut to a minimum the red tape for tourist visas.

A Polish asylum seeker in Hamburg: "There are long queues of shoppers just about everywhere in Warsaw, but the longest queue is that outside the German Embassy."

The visa enables Poles to spend up to three months in the Federal Republic of Germany, and the Polish authorities grant exit visas without much fuss or bother.

But when passing through the GDR, whether by train or by car, the Poles subjected to much official chicanery.

The reason is obvious: the East G man government is annoyed at the ral handling of exit visas in Poland.

As a rule, the Poles spend several in Hamburg before deciding on the move, then they either file an as application or just spend a few wee a wait-and-see attitude, hoping conditions at home will improve enable them to return to their country.

In fact, the number of those wh hope to return could well exceed th the asylum applicants.

Many of the Poles in Hamburg with friends or work without a perm earn a living.

But even those who file an as application risk nothing. Like all asylum seekers they receive social fare to the tune of DM330 a month free lodging, medical care, vocati training and German lessons.

And even should the asylum app tion be turned down they cannot b ported under the terms of an agree among German state interior mini dating back to 1966.

The agreement provides that no fugee from the East Bloc may be ported. As a result, Poles whose as application has been turned dow given residence and work permits have to be renewed annually.

Egbert A. Hoffm

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 29 July

SOCIETY

Monotony, frustration, isolation, bitterness: life on the assembly line

ul Schobel, a Roman Catholic works chaplain in Böblingen, near art, has written a book, *Dem band ausgeliefert* (At the Mercy of Assembly Line).

lls the tale of a holiday job on the bly line at Daimler-Benz, where he ore than once worked for several to see for himself how the other lives.

doesn't look like Don Camillo or Tuck. He has gentle features, wears s, has sensitive hands and walks a slight stoop.

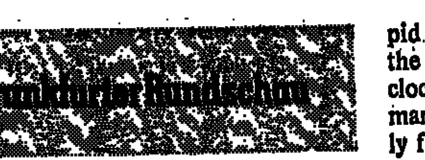
ou wouldn't think he could survive s of hard work. But appearances are ptive. He is a forest worker's son has staying power.

The longer I share my life with assembly line workers," he writes, "the clearly I realise that society increasingly consists of two worlds. Yet the mal' bourgeois world has no idea t the other world even exists."

Paul Schobel is one of the few who at home in both. He is a 41-year-old st who since 1972 has on three occasions swapped his office desk with an embly line job at Daimler-Benz in ndelfingen.

He did so because he felt it was not ough merely to work from the outside a works chaplain.

What he experienced could only be rmed depressing were it not that he



felt it gave him an incentive to help bring about changes.

His book, according to a Portuguese workmate, articulates the outcry of all car industry workers, even of those who no longer as much as complain.

He spent his first spell as a car worker nine years ago in the workshop where front axles were put together and engines mounted.

He did the work while others were on holiday and chose not to tell his workmates what he normally did for a living (he didn't want to make them feel uneasy); only the management knew.

He began by fixing radiator fans and gear shift linkages to the front axle unit. For the final fortnight he was promoted to screw inspector.

It was hard work, and Schobel makes no bones about his views and experiences. Beginners are bound to go home with fingers aching and bleeding.

By the same token they are bound to be kept on their toes by the speed of the assembly line, yet car workers incessantly try to get a few minutes' rest so they can go to the toilet or step outside for a moment.

Checking, he writes, is frightfully stupid and numbing, while the mad rush to the totally inadequate number of time clocks when the shift is over is inhuman. So is the traffic chaos that regularly follows.

Shift workers, who continue to make up the overwhelming majority of workers in the car industry, are 80-per-cent isolated from social life, Schobel claims.

Husbands and wives who work different shifts only see each other at weekends, with the result that divorce has become an epidemic at Daimler-Benz, as one worker bitterly notes.

Stomach trouble and complaints of the digestive tract are typical for shift workers, he finds.

There were 20 Germans in his department. Three were alcoholics and four had heart trouble. That was the price they paid for a combination of monotony and mad rush.

There have been changes since he first worked at Daimler-Benz, partly as a result of the work humanisation wage agreement in North Württemberg and North Baden.

But in the postscript to the book Franz Steinkühler, Stuttgart regional head of IG Metall, the metalworkers' union, admits that:

"When I first read the manuscript the question that immediately came to mind was whether this was all trade union activity had achieved. Had we been unable to accomplish greater changes in inhuman working conditions?"

In much assembly line work monotony is the most serious problem. "Once the hooter sounds to mark the start of the shift," Schobel writes, "eight hours of destiny embark on their inexorable course.

"There isn't going to be any relief, there will be no climaxes, probably not even interruptions. You will simply spend eight hours doing exactly the same work.

"There is not the slightest measure of freedom. Everything is prearranged and programmed. There is never any need to stop and think."

Noise, heat, headaches in the Congo

Noise too is a problem, For hours after work your head aches, Schobel writes. Heat is another. On hot summer days men work in temperatures of 32 degrees centigrade or more in a workshop nicknamed the Congo.

How do workmates react to their working conditions? Schobel reckons most no longer realise how underprivileged they are as a result, say, of working one shift one week and another the next.

During his first spell on the assembly line he came across a single workmate who was still aware enough to appreciate that: "slowly but surely you just grow stupid."

A shop steward was later to tell him that working at the assembly line was working in a concentration camp; slightly more refined, but not much. But views such as these were isolated exceptions to the rule.

The only indication that many shift workers are aware of their condition is their determination to ensure that the children get a better education and need not work at the assembly line.

Otherwise they seem to have resigned themselves to their lot and to limit conversation to football.

Asked what changes they would like to see, a number of workers can think of nothing other than being paid by the month rather than by the week.

All this would mean, apart from a putative gain in status, is being paid earlier.

Many old hands who have worked at Daimler-Benz for decades add that in the good old days they could assemble a complete fender unit individually.

"They really oughtn't to have subdivided the work like that at the assembly line," they wistfully say.

Assembly line and shift workers unleash their aggression in many ways. Schobel describes them; so do nine workmates who contributed articles to his book.

Says Willi, a supervisor who has worked at Sindelfingen for 25 years: "It makes me laugh when they talk about comradeship or a cordial atmosphere at work." "What riles me most," says Tonio, an Italian, "is the envy and hatred among workmates."

A Portuguese car worker who feels homesick says he is disgusted by the racism shown by German workers (about whom foreign workers have barely a good word to say):

"All the time they tell us we will be sent packing unless we do as we are told."

Yet he readily adds that whenever there is a job going where less work needs doing, and even if means only turning one screw fewer, foreign workers will at times behave so badly that Germans reckon they must all be like that.

So there are any number of pointers to a lack of solidarity and the blinkered mental outlook of workers who think mainly in terms of money, leisure, holidays and property as compensation for being "buried alive" or "chained to the assembly line."

Schobel also notes that many workers have spent so many years doing monotonous jobs that they prefer it that way, being afraid that any other work might show them up for having forgotten how to think for themselves.

The book has been attentively read at Daimler-Benz, says a spokesman for the board of directors. A number of problems will be looked into, such as the possible link between working different shifts and divorce.

But the company does not feel the book is representative of the attitude taken by most Daimler-Benz workers towards their job.

Father Schobel comes from a different social and educational background, has an entirely different viewpoint and thus projects expectations of work that workers themselves do not have.

He has heard this one before. Whatever would happen, he has often been asked, if an unskilled workers were to start giving sermons?

Part of the intention behind his book is to draw attention to the extent to which the Roman Catholic Church has drifted apart from working people and their world. But not everyone is prepared to accept the message.

Not far from his works chaplaincy office in Böblingen a young bookseller has her doubts about the implications of his book, which is selling briskly.

"Who is paid DM3,000 a month just for a movement of the arm?" she asks, graphically illustrating with a gesture of the arm how she imagines assembly line work to be.

Peter Henkel

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 29 July 1981)

■ BUSINESS

Unveiling the culprit: commercial performance

German business has lost much of its competitiveness: this, more than the oil-price explosion, is the reason for the economic problems of the Federal Republic.

Signs of the problem are:

- a dramatic change in the balance of payments, which have gone from a healthy surplus to a huge deficit in a couple of years.
- continuing high unemployment.
- a deficit in the traditionally positive balance of trade.

There are many reasons for the deterioration.

In world trade, the Federal Republic still ranks at the top and is second only to the United States as an exporter.

Germany is still the most important supplier of industrial goods and the West's greatest exporter to the East Bloc.

But this position is owed primarily to the dynamism of the 1960s.

Ever since, Germany's growth rate and industrial production have fallen back. So has its growth rate in world trade.

This means that German business has lost market shares — in some instances even for products in which this country has traditionally held a leading position — as with machinery, vehicles and chemicals.

The past 10 years have seen a decline in Germany's share of the world's industrial output from 9 to 7 per cent and its share in world exports from 13 to 10 per cent.

Foreign goods have been gaining in domestic markets: about one-quarter of the German market last year, compared with only one-tenth 20 years ago.

Foreign capital goods have made particularly heavy inroads: German industry used to be virtually unchallengeable in this field.

While the share of imported capital goods was only 10 per cent in the early 1960s, it has risen to close to 25 per cent.

Even growth branches of industry like machinery, road vehicles and electronics are now feeling the pinch on the home market.

Consumer goods such as shoes, textiles, clothing, ceramics and glassware have come under even heavier pressure from abroad.

The declining export performance of the 1970s on the one hand and growing imports on the other were largely due to the deutschemark appreciation which amounted to about 50 per cent against the currencies of our major trading partners between 1970 and 1978.

This trend was particularly pronounced in the exchange rate against the British pound, the Italian lira and the US dollar.

Even considering that Germany's inflation rate during that time was considerably lower than elsewhere, the deutschemark appreciation nevertheless made German goods abroad more expensive and foreign goods on the German market cheaper.

To make matters worse, the 1970s saw the development of Germany into a highwage country.

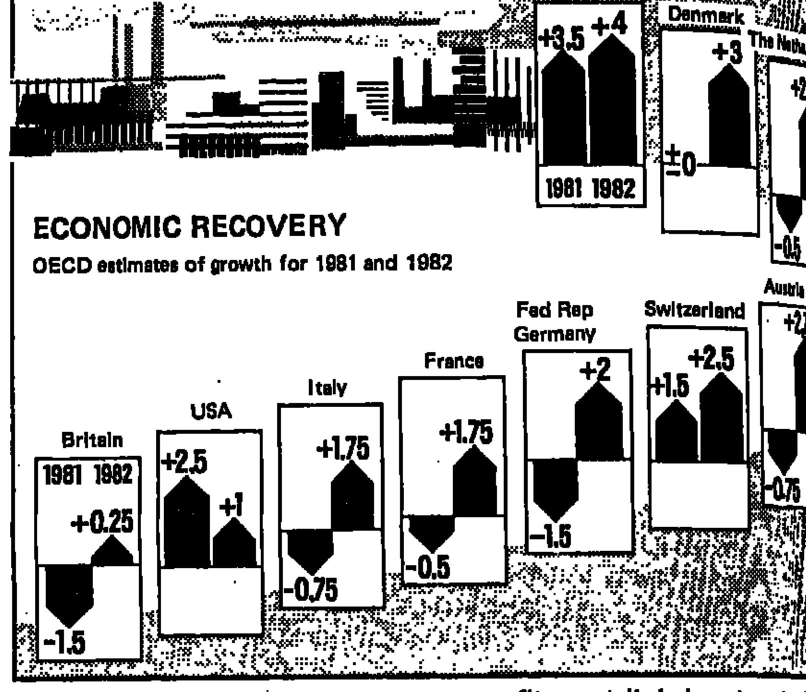
The average increase of wages and salaries in manufacturing industry between 1970 and 1980 was an annual 10 per cent, which was twice the increase in productivity.

This means that the wage cost per unit with its decisive bearing on competitiveness increased by an average five per cent a year during that period.

Naturally, branches of industry with a below average productivity rise have been hit hardest.

The increase of productivity has become less pronounced in the past 10 years compared with the preceding two decades.

Though other industrial countries have experienced a similar development, German productivity has now started lagging further behind, especially compared with such competing countries as



Japan, France, Austria, Italy, Norway and Sweden.

One of the reasons given for poor productivity today is that the deutschemark was undervalued in the 1950s and 1960s, which gave German manufacturers an edge in international competition. Since business was booming at that time, industries postponed or scrapped investment projects that would have been needed to increase productivity and thus secure competitiveness in the long run. As the Kiel Institute for World Economy succinctly observed recently, German business thus extended the use of its capital goods and delayed introducing new technologies that would have improved their productivity.

Since the deutschemark was undervalued, Germany became a favourite target of foreign direct investment in the form of new foreign-owned industries.

While Germany imported many inadequately skilled foreign workers other highly developed industrial countries resorted to new home-made technologies.

Rising wages in Germany in the 1970s and, in their wake, dwindling profits curtailed investments in [...] technologies that would have boo[...] productivity.

The depreciation of the deutsche[...] in recent months has naturally led t[...] certain improvement in our compe[...]veness.

Taking into account that other c[...] tries have higher inflation rates and [...] lancing this against our own cost [...] creases since the last quarter of 1[...] there remains a 10 to 15 per cent [...] for German goods on intern[...] markets.

But the deutschemark weakness [...] means that imported goods have be[...] more expensive and are boosting [...] flation rate which offsets some [...] advantages of the deutschemark de[...]ciation.

As a result, the only way of c[...] with the problems caused by the [...] price explosion is to improve our com[...]petiveness and this can only be achieved [...] by boosting productivity and keeping [...] wages and thus costs down as much [...] possible.

Lothar Julitz

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung [...] Deutschland, 4 August 19[...])

Continued from page 1

continued, without anything comparable lined up against it in the West, and it is being brought to a swift conclusion.

So the Soviet missile build-up continues even though the Kremlin may be shedding crocodile tears over President Reagan's decision and even though it talks as though peace were jeopardised by the neutron bomb rather than by the Soviet SS-20 missile.

Soviet excitement is for the most part a bid to exert influence on the further course of debate in Europe on the Nato decision to negotiate (but, failing success at the conference table, to rearm too).

The neutron bomb will, even though it may not be immediately associated with the subject, intensify debate.

Disarmament talks must necessarily deal with a reduction in the more dangerous weapons. The neutron bomb cannot be a topic for disarmament talks until it exists.

Achim Melchers

(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, 10 August 1981)

Cartel office seeks powers beyond national borders

The German Federal Cartel Office wants it powers to ban mergers extended across international borders.

This would mean that mergers involving German subsidiaries abroad or foreign firms in the Federal Republic could be prevented.

The cartel office banned the merger of the Paris firm, Firestone, with with the French subsidiary of the Bayer concern, Bayer-France.

But a German court over-ruled it.

The fact that trade is international but that trade practices apply only within national boundaries has long irked German anti-trust officials.

Mergers are the most prominent bone of contention.

The problem with mergers involving foreign firms is that international legal points are raised.

Another problem is that of enforcement in foreign countries.

Here, close cooperation with the EEC Commission in Brussels would seem the answer because articles 85 and 86 of the Community Treaty preclude the mergers of industrial giants if this will lead to unfair competition.

So this is, if only in a rudimentary form, an international fair competition provision that has been in existence since 1958.

The objective of the Brussels Commission is to "preserve the competitiveness or restore of the Community."

But a great many conflicting national interests within the EEC have put the brakes on such provisions.

Those who deplore this should bear in mind that Brussels cannot ignore the vast differences in the mentalities, governments and business practices between European and other countries.

Each country has different provisions for fair competition. Italy, for instance, has no anti-trust legislation. The United States, Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany do, though they are applied in a widely differing fashion.

German merger controls are generally regarded as being the stiffest. Yet when German wants to prevent a merger abroad that will have an effect on its domestic economy it must deal with the question: what if the government abroad approves of the merger and the Federal Cartel Office disapproves?

One way out would be to change Eu[...]rope's merger control system. But a 19[...] draft to that effect stands little cha[...] of being approved by the Council [...] Ministers.

As a result, the Federal Cartel Of[...] and the Bonn Ministry of Economic [...] fairs want this country to take the ini[...]tive.

Both base their move on the Germ[...] Anti-Trust Law which (in Section [...] Para. 2) states: "The Anti-Trust L[...] applies to all measures restricting co[...]petition that affect Germany even [...] they are implemented abroad."

Professor Kurt Markert of the ca[...] office, interprets the application [...] German merger controls very expans[...]ly. He insists that the Office sh[...] scrutinise even mergers of purely fore[...] companies if such action will have [...] effect on business in Germany.

It is hard to understand why our po[...] makers in this sector do not adopt [...] argument of a German court that o[...]ruled the ban on the Bayer-France [...] Firestone merger on the grounds [...] the preponderance of the effects of [...] merger was not in this country.

But should the preponderance be [...] Germany, the court would have co[...]dered upholding the ban.

What matters is to see things in [...] perspective.

Peter Wei[...]

(Die Welt, 7 August 19[...])

■ FINANCE

Oil cash, Third World syndrome intensifies

[...]mmercial banks are finding it in[...]creasingly difficult to recycle oil [...]ey.

[...]ny countries are nearing the limit [...]heir borrowing potential, according [...]gelbert Dicken, a member of the [...] of Commerzbank.

[...]her bankers say that if private capi[...]and know-how are to keep going to [...]loping countries there will have to [...] much more cooperation between [...]mercial banks, the International [...]tary Fund and the World Bank.

[...]me $80bn of this amount went to [...] Bloc dictatorships while the debt of [...]il have-nots among the developing [...]tries was estimated at $456bn.

[...]e money is primarily used to offset [...]huge current account deficits caused [...]e oil price explosion.

[...]e banks are particularly concerned [...] the oil-importing developing [...]tries and the threshold countries [...]e industrial production more than [...]led in the 1970s.

[...]e countries on the threshold of in[...]ialisation include Brazil, Mexico, [...]g Kong, Singapore, South Korea and [...]an.

The greatest borrowers by far are the [...]n American countries, which account [...] two-thirds of foreign credits, says a [...]mmerzbank spokesman.

Some 70 per cent of credits granted [...] guaranteed by governments have been [...]rowed by only ten countries which, [...] 1980, had to use 50 per cent of their [...]w loans for debt servicing (principal [...]d interest).

Two years earlier, debt servicing ac[...]counted for only 27 per cent.

Small wonder, then, that observers [...]w consider not only Poland and some [...]her East Bloc countries as being on [...]e verge of insolvency but also Brazil.

Since the number of banks prepared [...] shoulder international risks remains [...]changed and an IMF forecast antici[...]s even bigger current account difi[...], the commercial banks have little [...]ice but to enlist the cooperation of [...] IMF in financing development pro[...] and redressing balances of pay[...]ts.

According to IMF estimates, the cur[...]t account deficits of oil-importing [...]eloping countries will rise from the [...]sent $93bn to at least $140 billion in [...]85.

The risks the banks have to bear have [...]creased faster than anybody would [...]e thought possible only a few years [...], says a spokesman of the National [...]eration of German Banks.

Moreover, the ratio of risky foreign [...]s and the banks' own assets has [...]ched a critical point with many banks.

In view of the rising credit needs of [...] Third World banks in countries [...]h as Germany and America are be[...]ming more cautious about foreign [...]s.

Should the bid to achieve a closer bu[...]ess link between commercial banks [...] the IMF and the World Bank fail, [...] Third World deficits will continue [...] grow with little chance of plugging [...] hole.

IMF and World Bank executives have [...]n going out of their way in the past [...] years to cope with the snowballing [...]blems.

The IMF's support for those member [...]tions that are writhing under current [...]ccount deficits hit an all-time record [...] February with a sum of $13.5bn.

To enable the Fund to provide further [...]sistance, IMF director Jacques de La[...]osile recently negotiated a deal with [...]udi Arabia under the terms of which [...]e Opec country will lend the IMF $5bn [...]is year and the same amount in 1982.

The commercial banks would like to see the IMF going to the international money markets for its refinancing needs rather than to well-to-do member nations.

The World Bank, with its subsidiaries IDA and IFC, is still recovering from the retirement of Robert McNamara after 13 years in office.

As president of the organisation, McNamara increased its credit volume from less than $1bn in 1968 to $11.5bn in 1980.

The World Bank is at present involved in more than 1,600 projects in 100 countries and the capital has always been obtained from the international money markets.

McNamara's successor, Alden Clausen — formerly in charge of Bank of America's Third World financing — has inherited an ambitious programme: The bank intends to grant new credits to the tune of $30bn by 1985.

McNamara considered this huge development volume necessary to keep pace with the population explosion in Asia, Latin America and Africa.

As he saw it, the population growth would be decisive for the future of mankind.

According to the commercial banks, the IMF and the World Bank must do everything in their power to stabilise the economic development of countries with growing current account and adaptation problems.

The IMF attaches stringent terms to its credits. It can do this because, due to its supranational status, it is beyond all suspicion of pursuing selfish interests.

What the IMF wants is to make its credits contingent on feasible economic measures that will help put countries like Turkey or the Philippines back on their feet.

Supervision of the projects financed by it naturally improves their chances of success, says the bank.

In some instances poor credit risks could become good ones as a result of such controls.

This in itself would provide great relief for commercial banks, which have no way of imposing such terms for their loans.

The IMF itself has frequently spoken of the need for far-reaching changes in certain national economies — especially in the non-oil producing developing countries.

These changes are indispensable if a reasonable balance of payments and medium-term growth are to be achieved.

Galloping inflation frequently forces the Fund to insist on economic measures that must lead to a short-term decline in economic performance.

The prescription can be summed up in one word: austerity.

Though the idea of austerity is discomforting, the IMF has little choice but to walk the tightrope between anti-inflationary policy and economic collapse as a means of eventually achieving reasonable growth coupled with an acceptable balance of payments and free trade.

Any politicising of the IMF would be disastrous, as would be any yielding to the demand for soft loans.

At the September 1980 annual IMF and World Bank meeting, representatives of some developing countries called for a one-country-one-vote system (as opposed to the present system in which the main providers of capital also have the greatest say).

If these Third World countries were to prevail, it would mean that the control over the money would not necessarily rest with only those Third World politicians whose prime interests are growth and economic stability.

As a Dresdner Bank spokesman put it, if this happened, we could forget about the IMF as an international institution. The Fund would degenerate into an outsize inflation machine.

Jan Jöhn

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 31 July 1981)

■ THE EEC

Two steps to reduce the tensions

On top of the East-West and the North-South tension, we now also have our West-West problems. They range from economic and monetary issues to defence, the Middle East and trade with the East Bloc.

The Ottawa economic summit has not helped mend the rift but has instead only highlighted it.

As in the case of France, where Mitterrand (and with him the Communists) came to power because Chirac and Giscard were at loggerheads, the West-West problems could easily turn into tension that would so weaken the West politically and socially as to make its new military strength useless.

A closer look at the situation shows that there is a subspecies of West-West tension within the European Community.

Leo Tindemans has just publicly confirmed that the Community is in the grip of a severe crisis.

The unsatisfactory state of the EEC is as undeniable as is the fact that all its members greatly benefit from it — and this includes the Germans and the British.

A whacking 43 per cent of Britain's exports go to the Community, and it is easy to imagine the position the UK would be in if, instead of a Common Market, it were faced with tariffs and trade barriers.

It is the politicians' job to solve problems. The position of the European Community can and must be improved before other West-West problems lead to an erosion of the Common Market. This is particularly so considering that the Community represents the only bit of true European peace.

There are two concrete proposals I have to put forward:

- One: The European Parliament is better than its reputation. Yet it lags far behind the hopes the European electorate pinned on it when giving it its mandate.

What is there to prevent the Euro-MPs from exerting pressure on the Council of Ministers and the Commission?

For instance: the parties could put forward identical motions in both the national Parliaments and the Europarliament. In Strasbourg, the commissioners and ministers can still resort to evasion.

Not so in Bonn or London or Rome or Paris where they would have to put their cards on the table.

This is what we once did with the Monnet Committee and it turned out that the procedure worked.

- Two: Since the Brussels machinery is cumbersome it tends to postpone rather than decide. The result is a vast accumulation of motions and proposals that have not been attended to. The whole procedure is confusing and obstructionist rather than progressive.

But it would be disastrous to blame everything on bureaucracy. Like bureaucrats the world over, the Brussels Eurocrats sit in jobs that have been created by the politicians; and like their brethren elsewhere they harp on norms, standards and regulations.

One of the reasons for the inertia in Brussels is the EEC decision-making process that has made consensus one of its holy cows.

This means that a member-nation which is not or not yet prepared to go along with a decision can hold up the entire process.

This consensus fanaticism has prompted the Commission and its staff to work out proposals in a manner conducive to such a consensus.

The procedure is such as to prevent bargaining and wrestling for a compromise through pressure and give and take.

The Treaty of Rome provided for majority decisions rather than consensus. But there was the crisis of 1965 when France was outvoted on a number of important issues and refused to abide by the majority decision.

The crisis was solved by a resolution to the effect that, whenever important interests of a member nation are at stake, negotiations must continue until a solution has been found that is acceptable to all.

All concerned, including de Gaulle, interpreted this to mean that no country can be outvoted on vital matters — and there are unlikely to be more than two or three such issues every year.

But in today's practice this ruling is applied to all issues, and this can hardly function.

The governments of the member nations should be forced by a binding resolution to inform the Commission, complete with reasons, which questions of the coming year (so far as predictable) they regard as vital in terms of the 1966 resolution.

If this were done, nobody would want the embarrassment of being ridiculed about the issues considered vital. This would separate the wheat from the chaff, enable the Eurocrats to concentrate on their work — thus speeding up the processes — and leave room for compromise.

Has anybody got a better suggestion?

Rainer Barzel

(Die Welt, 5 August 1981)

Rainer Barzel is chairman of the Bundestag foreign affairs committee.

Wallowing in its own muck . . . the Afran Zenith at work in Hamburg.
(Photo: Freigeg. LA HH 8023/81 G. Aumer)

THE ENVIRONMENT

Oil tanker spill in Hamburg a warning that next time it might be worse

Several hundred tons of crude oil spilled into the River Elbe in Hamburg last month when a 97,000 ton Liberian-registered tanker ran aground.

Only last year the advisory panel on environmental affairs to the Bonn Interior Ministry wrote that an oil tanker or chemical transporter mishap could happen daily.

It was merely a stroke of uncommon-good luck that none had, they noted in their special report on environmental problems in the North Sea.

A year later it has happened: not, perhaps, a major disaster, but several hundred tons of crude oil spilled into the Elbe when a Liberian tanker, the Afran Zenith, sprung a leak in Hamburg.

It wasn't a supertanker, of course, and the spillage wasn't enormous, but the incident brought home to Germans how risky shipping oil and chemicals is.

Hamburg was lucky to get off so lightly. It is the second-largest oil port in Germany (the largest being Wilhelmshaven). Nineteen oil processers are factories in the city.

Their combined annual capacity is 15 million tons, and about 10 million tons

23,000 tons of crude a year are spilled into the North Sea by accident or mistake

are shipped in by sea. A tanker of over 100,000 tons reaches Hamburg every two or three days.

The port of Hamburg and its refineries are 110km (70 miles) inland, up the Elbe from the North Sea coast.

The shipping lane upstream is 15 metres deep. Large oil tankers when fully laden head inland only a few inches clear of the river bed.

In the wake of the near-disaster Wolfgang Curilla, Hamburg's head of environmental affairs, said it was high time the oil pipeline from Wilhelmshaven was built.

There has been talk of building a pipeline between the two cities for the last 12 years.

The city's economic affairs department, which is mainly concerned with the port and shipping, says the pipeline is a matter for private enterprise, and private enterprise has so far not been unduly keen to go ahead with the idea.

Would Wilhelmshaven be prepared to take more tankers? A pipeline would cost a packet. But the cost is likely to put paid to another project that has been mooted for years.

It is the plan for a major oil terminal to be built on an island in the Elbe estuary.

Even so, is it wise to allow large tankers full of oil or even more dangerous liquids to sail into the middle of cities, even though the city may depend on its port and allied industries for a living?

Alfons Pawelczyk, head of Hamburg's home affairs department, would like to see ships screened more carefully before they sail up the Elbe to the city.

But this may not be practicable to the extent necessary. Pilots merely come on board with a check list of questions they put to the captain.

They deal with the captain's qualifications and those of his officers and with the ship's safety. The captain answers them and the pilot hardly has time to check the answers thoroughly.

The pollution danger is by no means limited to cities, however. The entire North Sea from the Elbe estuary to the Thames is so busy that 50 per cent of the world's collisions between ships over 500 tons occur in this sector.

In 1981 an estimated 655 million tons of crude oil and petroleum products will be shipped round the North Sea between London and Hamburg.

The North Sea is one of the most heavily polluted in the world, polluted by shipping, by what the rivers pour into it and by what is dumped in its waters.

This creeping pollution, the Bonn experts ruled, is even more insidious than the risk of a supertanker mishap.

An estimated 23,000 tons of crude oil a year find their way into the North Sea due to carelessness, technical shortcomings or deliberate pumping of bilges.

There have been a few improvements in recent years. Taking pilots has been made mandatory on more routes. One-way lanes and clearer right-of-way regulations have been introduced in the German Bight and the North Sea generally.

Since May 1981 the Safety of Life at Sea code has been in force. One of its provisions is that all tankers must have a second, emergency engine and steering system.

In Hamburg the Afran Zenith reportedly went out of control because the ship's electricity system blacked out. But the new provisions only apply to new ships. The Afran Zenith was built in a Spanish yard in 1972.

International agreements also include one on marine pollution. It was reached in 1973 but has yet to come into force.

Were its provisions enforced all over the world, the Bonn report said, the marine environment could be rated substantially better protected.

They include many technical details such as the requirement that tankers be equipped with double bulwarks. But many experts are opposed to this idea because dangerous gases could collect between them.

Marpol also governs the arrangement and size of tanks on board a tanker with a view to keeping spillage to a minimum. It likewise prohibits bilge pumping in most waters.

There is a further international agreement governing the qualifications of seamen on board tankers.

Time and again one hears tales of ships with untrained crews, of master's tickets that can be bought for a small fee at certain consulates and of national shipping authorities that turn a blind eye to such practices.

Marpol and thee agreement on qualifications would put paid to them. Port authorities would be entitled to refuse ships permission to enter or, if they are found wanting when already in port, to immobilise them.

But Marpol is not yet in force and will not be until it is ratified by 10 countries. This should be the case next year, when the Common Market countries jointly complete ratification procedures. Bonn has already approved the agreements. Countries that have already ratified Marpol, incidentally, include Liberia, a flag of convenience and one of the countries invariably blamed for poor safety at sea. But not even the best of regulations can make tankers and their dangerous cargo paragons of safety, and certainly not in a river or port. Hamburg's Senator Curilla is surely right in saying that an accident can only be ruled out once large tankers no longer sail up the Elbe to the oil terminal.

It is incomprehensible in the circumstances that neither in Hamburg nor elsewhere along the North Sea have adequate oil-fighting precautions been introduced.

There are several ambitious plans for coping with oil slicks, however. One was drawn up in April 1980 by a committee set up by the Bonn government and the *Länder* Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein, Bremen and Hamburg.

It provides for investment totalling roughly DM100m, but by the end of 1981 no more than DM15m will have been spent. At present, the committee says, investment has only reached DM9m.

Of this, DM7.5m has been paid to buy the Ostertor, a former oil rig supply vessel that is shortly to start conversion into an oil-fighting ship.

Last year Bonn also reached agreement with the oil companies on making ships available to take damaged tankers in tow and with salvage companies on making salvage vessels available.

Both agreement are ready to be signed but that is reportedly as far as has been got.

Hamburg this year was, as of June, to invest DM505,000 in the programme drawn up jointly by Bonn and the coastal *Länder*.

A December 1980 report to the Federal government listed the oil-fighting facilities then available along Germany's North Sea coast.

A blind eye to bought master's tickets and untrained crews

They included chemical dispersal agents for mopping up slicks, five vessels to take slick oil on board and several hundred metres of mobile breakwater.

There was also a specially equipped catamaran based in Cuxhaven. It saw duty in Hamburg this time round, as did the sausage-shaped mobile breakwaters, the waterborne equivalent of sandbags.

Most of the vessels and equipment used in Hamburg were provided by private enterprise. They included ships for mopping up oil with vacuum pumps that are normally used to clean tanks.

"None of the companies can afford to maintain ships specially to mop up oil slicks," says a spokesman for one Hamburg-based company.

"There are no government subsidies towards maintenance and we can only earn money when we are on the job."

Karsten Plog/Christoph Peck

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 28 July 1981)



Cleaning up
(Photo: Sven Simon)

■ ARCHAEOLOGY

There's gold in them thar hills – well there was 3,000 years ago

Greek and German scientists, combining Herodotus and space research, have found ancient gold workings beneath the Acropolis of Thasos, an island in the Aegean.

Herodotus, the Ancient Greek historian, referred to the mines in a travel description 2,500 years ago.

Techniques of geological analysis devised for probing lunar rock, and thus fresh out of the white heat of 20th century technological progress, did the rest.

The gold mines of Thasos were first worked at a time when in the Aegean the Cycladic civilisation reigned supreme and most of northern Europe was still in the Stone Age.

A team of German scientists visited the island in September 1979, led by the late Professor Wolfgang Gentner, head of the Max Planck Nuclear Physics Institute, Heidelberg.

They were following up a hint made in a 1929 PhD thesis written by a German geologist, J. Speidel, who probed several ancient mine shafts on the island in a quest for lead and zinc ore.

Thasos is still well-known for its lead and zinc ores, but Speidel surmised from the high silver content of ore in the shafts he discovered that silver had been mined there in classical antiquity.

This assumption is supported by the large number of silver coins minted in the late fifth and early fourth centuries BC on the island.

Yet nowhere is there a historical mention of silver being mined on Thasos. Only Herodotus wrote that he had seen gold mines there that had been worked by the Phoenicians 500 years previously.

"Gold-miners opened up a large mountain on the island," he wrote. Herodotus is otherwise a reliable observer. Was he possibly mistaken on this count?

The German research team, working in conjunction with Giorgios Gialogou of the Greek Geological and Mining Exploration Institute, found well-preserved traces of tools and charcoal in Speidel's workings.

They were carbon-dated and found to be about third or fourth century AD. Laboratory analysis of slag found on the island indicated that at this period lead, zinc and copper were smelted on Thasos.

To learn more about the ore mined on the island the scientists took a closer look at antique lead objects such as the cast lead bars the Ancient Greeks, and later the Romans, used to reinforce the foundations and stone walls of their temples and fortifications.

They also examined the lead weights of looms and fishnets and the leaden repairs to broken earthware vessels.

Tiny samples were drilled from museum exhibits and analysed by highly sensitive equipment at the Max Planck Institute of Cosmic Chemistry in Mainz.

This specialised laboratory equipment was developed initially to analyse meteorites, space dust and rock samples from the moon.

Lead ore with an admixture of silver was incontrovertibly mined on the island in the pre-Roman period, the Mainz research chemists found, and presumably to refine the silver first and foremost.

But the silver content was too low, so in later periods only lead, copper and zinc were mined.

The origin of ancient lead artefacts was thus clarified, but what about the gold mines and the mountain turned upside-down to which Herodotus referred?

Herodotus was sufficiently detailed in his description for the Heidelberg scientists to feel sure he could have been referring to one specific mountain only.

So that was where they started looking. But they kept losing their way in snake-infested scrub and were unable to locate the shaft and gallery entrances they had hoped to find.

After days wandering around without finding anything Professor Gentner and his team were about ready to call it a day.

Linguists had, after all, voiced doubts on whether writings attributed to Herodotus were invariably genuine.

And even if they were genuine, many others might equally well have rediscovered the old gold mines before them.

For centuries treasure-hunters have looked for treasure trove referred to in historical sources. Nowadays geologists often do much the same.

But an old Greek who as a boy had kept an eye on goats on the very mountain mentioned by Herodotus took the Heidelberg boffins to a narrow orifice in the rock face.

It was the entrance to a complicated system of shafts and galleries leading about 100 metres into the side of the mountain.

They had only three hours left before nightfall in which to explore the old workings and take samples for laboratory analysis back home, but they were thrilled and delighted.

There were clear and unmistakable signs that ore had been mined there. They could even make out the soot-filled niches where miners kept their oil-lamps about 3,000 years ago.

Laboratory findings back in Heidelberg showed it really had been the gold mine Herodotus described. The samples really did contain gold, although very little.

Remains of charcoal and potshards lent further support to the surmise that the 2,500-year-old gold workings had been rediscovered.

But was this to be the end of the matter? An expedition returned in May 1980 to examine in greater detail, survey and map out the geological data and mining features of the workings.

Further workings and a number of open-cast sites were found elsewhere around the mountain, so H... seemed to have been absolutely ...

Remains from 2,500 years ... not all that was found. So were ... and wood carbon-dated about ... old and a Byzantine coin dated ...

Differences in the mining tech... used further backed the assumption ... Greeks had followed in the Phoe... footsteps and in their turn, in the ... zantine era, been followed by other...

The Byzantine miners seemed ... read their Herodotus too!

The German research scientists ... have felt amply satisfied if th... been it, but French colleagues ... them to take a look at an extens... tem of galleries beneath the Acro... Limenas, the Ancient Greek city ... sos.

They imagined, given the grea... ring of the stone in the old ... they had come across an old ... iron mine. They had already pu... research findings outlining this hyp... sis.

But the German team went ... prove it was really an old gold ... The Heidelberg nuclear physicists ... now convinced not only Herod... mountain was a gold mine.

At some stage the entire easte... of Thasos must have been a ... gold mine. Herodotus may wel... have seen the workings on the m... tainside. They evidently impressed ... sufficiently to merit a mention.

The gold mine underneath the ... polis of Thasos is nowhere mentio... historical sources, however.

Lutz Schu...

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 July ...)

Spade work in the Middle East

With German archaeologists doing more spade work in the Middle East the German Archaeological Institute has opened a new office in Damascus.

It was officially inaugurated in March as part of a field network including local offices in Cairo, Sanaa, Istanbul, Baghdad and Tehran.

The decision to resume digging in Syria was taken during the sesquicentenary celebrations of the institute in 1979.

The Damascus office will supervise activities in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. Its brief is to deal with the characteristic local styles found in these countries.

In cooperation with the local departments of antiquities the Damascus office is to undertake digs, soundings and surveys and restore selected monuments.

The findings of archaelogical field work and the extensive stock of regional museums are also to be made accessible to the public by means of scientific documentation.

Syria in the wider sense, including Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine, is of special importance as one of the heartlands of early civilisation.

By virtue of its geographical location, midway between Mesopotamia and the countries of classic antiquity, Ancient Greece and Rome, it played the role of an intermediary.

At the hub of influence by a variety of civilisations a close succession of cultural strata were amassed here from the onset of early recorded history.

They left behind extraordinarily abundant traces in the form of archaeological material, which brings one to a further keynote of the Damascus office's research brief.

It is to trace the development of forms from the Roman era via the Byzantine and early Christian period to the Islamic epoch, from the Omayyad, Ayyubid and Mameluke dynasties to the late Middle Ages.

In summer 1980 German archaeologists embarked on several long-term research projects.

Michael Meinecke is probing the development of the madrasas, or mosque schools, in Syria and the architecture of the Ayyubid period (12th to mid-13th centuries).

Andreas Schmidt-Colinet has started work on Nabataean architecture and its ornaments.

Since May 1980 historic monuments in Salihiyya, an area of Damascus dating back to the 12th century, have been systematically catalogued in collaboration with the Syrian department of antiquities.

More than 40 monuments have, in the course of this project, been surveyed and scientifically recorded for the first time.

From Damascus the office's role will be not only to trace the city's topographical development back to their beginnings but also to document the numerous monuments in its environs.

Regional research will likewise be centred on Palmyra and its surroundings, the Syrian coastline and the Hauran heights of southern Syria, of which Bosra is the centre.

Research findings will be published in a special journal, *Damaszener Mitteilungen*, and in a series of books to be published from time to time under the general heading of *Damaszener Forschungen*.

The first volumes in this new series are due to appear later this year.

The Institut francais d'études ... de Damas, founded nearly 60 years ... deals mainly with Oriental and his... co-topographical subjects.

The German institute that has n... joined it in the Syrian capital will ... concentrating on archaeological rem... as a pointer to past civilisations.

The parent institute hopes its Da... cus office will prompt more inte... scientific investigation of Syrian civ... tions at an international level.

Similar bureaus seem certain to be ... up by other institutes of this kind.

The resumption of German arch... logical work in Syria marks the co... nuation of a longstanding tradi... German experts in the past ... contributed much to the fund of ... orical knowledge about the region.

It is a tradition that certainly ... back to the late 19th century when ... ria formed part of Turkey. Major ... man archaeological projects of the ... included several in this part of ... world.

Take, for instance, the first ex... tions at Baalbek by Otto Puchstein, ... the discovery of the Hittite capi... Tell Halaf in 1899.

Tell Halaf, in the Euphrates valley, ... excavated by Max von Oppenheim.

During the First World War a ... ish-German unit operated in Syr... protect historic monuments. It too... first scientific look at Petra, Dam... Palmyra and many other monumen... the area.

The historico-topographical ... by Rudolph E. Brünnow and Alfred ... Domaszewski in the early years of ... century was of fundamental impo...

So, to this day, has been the ... Daniel Krencker and Willy ... mann in the 30s...

German archaeologists returned ... the Second World War...

Continued on page ...

Statistically, there are not many diabetic children: just one for each doctor in Germany.

But that is still too many. Diabetic children need special help.

Often there are associated behavioural disorders which, in turn, aggravate the disease.

Dr Wilhelm Höpker, well aware of the necessity of psychological care and guidance for young diabetics, decided to do something about it. He started a boarding school.

As a hospital internist, he was constantly confronted with the children's problems. He found that many of them lived in families that were unable to understand the need for a strict diet and therefore did little to enforce it.

He also saw these children being hospitalised time and again; he saw their deteriorating performance at school and, finally, he watched behavioural problems develop.

A boarding school that would provide the children with a long-term therapy, teach them to live with the disability and at the same time provide a normal education seemed the answer.

Dr Höpker: "Compared with months of hospitalisation, a boarding school is certainly the lesser of the two evils."

In 1967 he wrote to the North Rhine-Westphalia interior minister, giving him a detailed organisational blueprint of the school he had in mind.

It took until June 1972 before the school took its first pupil-patients in its Lüdenscheid quarters.

But the whole project almost came to a premature end. In March 1973 the German Diabetics Society (DDB), the principal shareholder of the limited company specially formed, decided to discontinue operations for fear of financial losses.

The closure was averted in the nick of time when Terre des Hommes decided to take over the DDB shares.

Thanks to many donations, the school has managed to keep its daily rates down to a reasonable DM66.80 which the State Youth Authority is prepared to pay without a murmur.

In fact, the boarding school has worked so smoothly that it has managed to accumulate some money which will be used to build a new building needed as the waiting list grew longer and longer.

Additional funds have meanwhile been provided by charitable organisations and various North Rhine-Westphalian ministries.

Dr Höpker, who still considers himself just a plain country doctor, says: "They evidently felt that we were doing a reasonable job."

There are now 34 boarders at the school — two too many according to his strict standards but, as Dr Höpker puts it: "We can't just turn down a child that desperately needs us."

The new building will relieve the pressure.

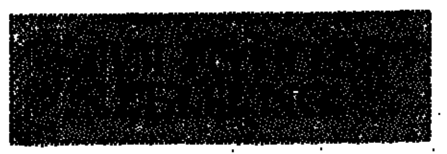
The children come from all parts of the country as do the members of the medical committee — all specialists in the field, among them Professor Teller, a paediatrician in Ulm; Professor Weber, a Berlin paediatrician and Professor Federlin, a Giessen internist.

Medical care is coupled with normal school education and vocational training is provided.

Like other boarding schools, it has among its staff various types of teachers and supervisory personnel, though the

■ MEDICINE

Boarding school to help diabetic children



problems they have to cope with go far beyond those in normal boarding schools.

Many children sent to the school feel discarded and regard the boarding school as a punishment.

As a result, they are frequently rebellious and refuse to adapt to the daily routine.

Yet diabetes requires close cooperation if positive results are to be achieved.

The parents are called upon to convince the children that the sole function of the boarding school is to help them with the social, educational and medical problems caused by their illness.

Extracurricular care is as important as the academic side.

Children are accepted from school-going age through to apprenticeship.

In many cases younger children are more diciplined than the others and frequently have a good effect on some of the juveniles with distinct behavioural problems.

What Dr Höpker is striving for is individual responsibility. As a result, he has done away as much as possibly with *verboten.*

Sweets are not forbidden on principle and children are sometimes allowed the more harmless variety like licorice and chewing gum. This also means that pocket money need not be controlled.

The ultimate aim is to make the children accept their disability as part of normal life. Every one of them — even the youngest and may choose meals from a set menu.

Diabetes is not yet curable nor are its causes known. It can, however, be taken for granted that, unlike with adults, a wrong diet and obesity are not its causes in children.

In 30 per cent of the cases the disease is hereditary (passed on by both parents) and in 70 per cent it is thought to be attributable to a virus infection or damage to the insulin-produc[...] cells.

Many children develop the fir[...] tom — constant thirst — after a [...] flu.

American researchers are stepp[...] efforts find the virus or bacteri[...] causes the disease.

Meanwhile, medicine is experim[...] with the possibility of implantin[...] tured beta cells or a mechanical [...] in the form of a sensor in an [...] measure the sugar level and feed [...] formation to an insulin dispenser.

Similar research aimed at co[...] diabetes is now also in progress i[...]

For the time being, however, [...] method is the one used at the [...] scheid boarding school: insulin [...] and diet.

The number of newly reported [...] tic cases varies widely from co[...] country, though the total number [...] ferers is fairly constant.

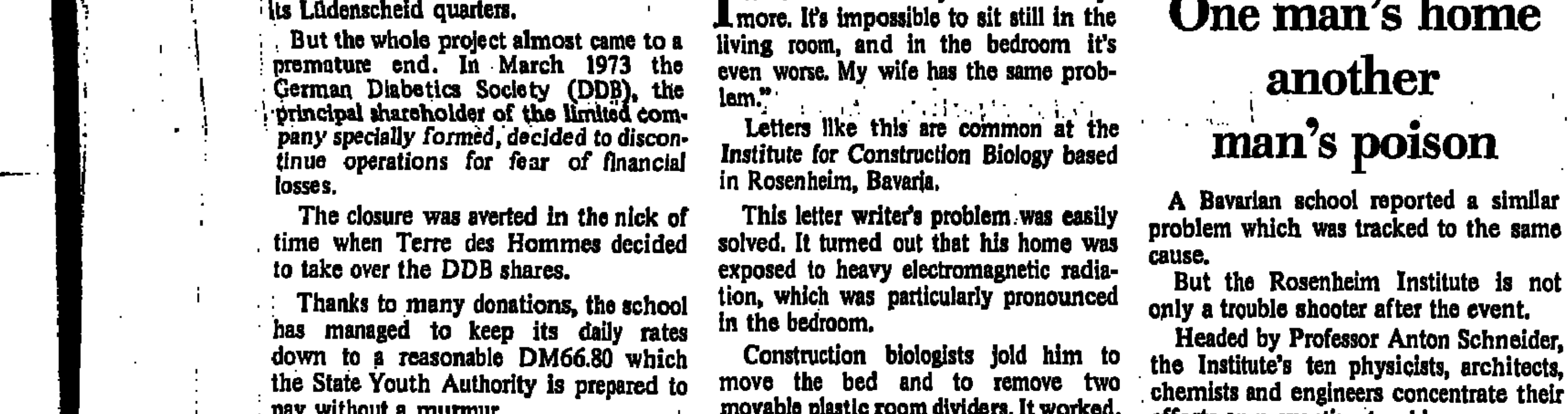
Most new cases are reported i[...] ain, Sweden and the USA, follo[...] Berlin and Switzerland.

There are no exact figures [...] for Germany but Danish statistic[...] no rise in child diabetes.

"Yet the number of families th[...] unable to cope with a diabetic c[...] likely to increase due to social c[...] tions," says Dr Höpker.

Ute B. Frö[...]

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 30 Ju[...])



One man's home another man's poison

I can't stand it in my four walls anymore. It's impossible to sit still in the living room, and in the bedroom it's even worse. My wife has the same problem."

Letters like this are common at the *Institute for Construction Biology based* in Rosenheim, Bavaria.

This letter writer's problem was easily solved. It turned out that his home was exposed to heavy electromagnetic radiation, which was particularly pronounced in the bedroom.

Construction biologists told him to move the bed and to remove two movable plastic room dividers. It worked.

A civil servant who had worked in the same office for eight years and during that time had stayed away from work once only for a single day due to a severe flu suddenly developed all sorts of symptoms when his office was moved to a super-modern building.

Among the symptoms were sweating, palpitations, shivering, muscle spasms, diagnosed as vegetative dystonia.

But the Rosenheim construction biologists found another reason for the problem: In the room directly below the civil servant's new office there was a mammoth computer that emitted a heavy magnetic field.

The moment the man's office was moved to another part of the building, he was cured.

These were easy remedies, which cannot be said of a case in Cologne. A newly built school found that children reported sick by the score. Doctors all found the same symptoms: itching, headaches and vomiting.

The school authorities referred the case to the Rosenheim men who identified the culprit in no time: a special type of plastic that omitted highly toxic fumes had been used in the construction.

Once the dividing walls made of this plastic were removed, life at the school return to normal.

A Bavarian school reported a similar problem which was tracked to the same cause.

But the Rosenheim Institute is not only a trouble shooter after the event.

Headed by Professor Anton Schneider, the Institute's ten physicists, architects, chemists and engineers concentrate their efforts on preventing trouble.

Encouraged and licensed by the state, they provide correspondence courses on a national scale to train construction biologists of whom there are by now 700 in this country.

The number of architects who have at least some idea of this discipline is ten times this figure.

The Institute also makes a point of counselling landlords, tenants, artisans and construction companies on better ways of construction and, ultimately, living.

Polls by the Institute show that one in ten people or institutions contemplating building are interested in this new "back to nature" movement.

Professor Schneider has come up with a few basic rules. Among the most important of these is that the four walls, man's other skin, in which most of us spend 90 per cent of our time should be made of natural materials that are unaffected by radiation.

Professor Schneider: "Some of our new buildings are almost 100 per cent plastic, made of materials that are incompatible with the human body. Small wonder, then, that health is waning and illness spreading."

The Institute advises builders to use plenty of wood, bricks, cork and coconut fibres or natural stone instead of concrete, plastics, asbestos, glass wool and similar man-made materials.

And instead of using chemical[...] and toxic dry nor protection, [...] resins and vegetable colouring [...] are the answer.

As superfluous as a hole in the [...] say the Rosenheim scientists, a[...] the many types of plastic conden[...] preventers which only produce ai[...] can cut with a knife.

Using natural materials would [...] make air humidifiers redundant [...] would eliminate the dampness th[...] common immediately after construct[...]

The Institute also provides tip[...] odourless materials, correct lighting [...] soothing colours.

The same goes for sound insul[...] (75 per cent of Germans complain [...] they are exposed to noise torture in [...] ir four walls) and for construction [...] erials that emit no radiation.

But radiation need not neces[...] come from the materials used in [...] struction. Frequently it is due to [...] earth's magnetism or to water co[...] underground.

The latter can easily be identified [...] the profusion of mushrooms, ferns, [...] fles, willows and a number of [...] plants.

Another clear sign is the co[...] shape of trees. Ants, snakes, ow[...] bees flock to these stretches of [...] while chickens, mice and rabbits [...] them like the plague.

Not everybody reacts to water co[...] Some people feel nothing while o[...] suffer from constant headaches, [...] nia and cold feet.

The Rosenheim Institute frequ[...] employs water diviners in planning [...] siting of a house. Simple FM rad[...] ceivers with a directional aerial ar[...] to establish earth magnetism and [...] tion emitted by the house itself. [...] idea is to prevent at least the bedr[...] from being wrongly sited.

This was the procedure used [...] in the planning of an office buil[...] Traunstein, Bavaria.

The building is now complete[...]

Continued on page 14

EDUCATION

Foreign students face new hurdles in university enrolment

[...]oreign students are going to find it much more difficult to enrol at [...]man universities now the *Länder* are [...]g on a recommendation by the [...]ding Conference of Land Education [...]isters.

[...] Baden-Württemberg, for instance, [...] Education Ministry in Stuttgart has [...]larised universities in accordance [...] the recommendations, headed Mea[...] to Improve Selection Procedures [...] Foreign Applicants to *Studienkolleg.*

[...]he *Studienkolleg,* or study college, is [...]-university course in which foreign [...]nts are taught German and prepar[...]h other ways for a full German uni[...]ity career.

[...]he measures recommended include [...] allowing foreign students to enrol [...]ss they have completed all the ap[...]ation formalities in their own coun[...]

They are only allowed to come to [...]rmany once they have been given a [...]e at university or *Studienkolleg* and [...]ed with the appropriate visa.

They may no longer visit Germany on [...] tourist visa to make on-the-spot ar[...]gements; everything must be settled [...] advance.

Also, admission requiements have [...]een revised for applicants from a num[...]er of countries, including Iran, Turkey, Greece, Spain and Indonesia.

Indonesians will have to submit a cer[...]ificate of non-objection issued by the Indonesian authorities, while Iranians, Greeks and Turks must submit documentary evidence that they have already been enrolled at a university in their own country.

Greeks and Turks must prove they havw passed university entrance exams back home, while Turks will only be allowed to study the subject for which they enrolled in Turkey.

According to the Baden-Württemberg circular, dated 15 July 1981, these admission requirement recommendations by Bonn are binding on universities.

They must be used as a yardstick of applicants' qualifications. In borderline cases applications must be forwarded to the foreign students' clearing department of the Standing Conference of *Land* Education Ministers.

This department has been requested to send all universities final details of its admission requirements in time for the winter semester.

Interim regulations will apply in the meantime. Applicants who have already been awarded a university place can rest assured.

The amendments will in any case only affect a small number of foreign students, who currently number 7,500 in Baden-Württemberg, for instance.

Most come from the United States and will hardly be affected. But Greeks are the second-largest foreign student nationality, and even though they are citizens of a Common Market country they will be hit badly.

There will be virtually no new admissions from Iran or Indonesia, it seems safe to say. Students from developing countries will only be allowed to study in Germany if they are in the clear with their home governments.

This, at any rate, was the view expressed by a Third World education centre in Stuttgart that is backed by various Protestant Church groups.

Political dissidents or groups hit by religious discrimination, staff at the centre say, are most unlikely to be allowed to enrol at a German university from now on.

The recommendation on foreign student admissions is said to have been necessitated by an influx of applicants, especially from the countries hardest hit.

Yet the Stuttgart Third World education centre points out that Bonn has undertaken to put up to eight per cent of university places at the disposal of foreign students.

As foreign students currently accounted for a mere five per cent of the student population the situation was by no means dramatic.

The introduction of what amounted to a spcial visa for students subdivided foreign students into two categories of haves and have-nots.

Students from Europe and North America would apart from Greeks and Turks, have little difficulty. Students from developing countries would face serious difficulties.

Minorities would be in real trouble, say black South Africans, Kurds, Christians from South Korea, ethnic Chinese from Indonesia and, of course, members of Opposition groups in their home countries.

The Protestant Church chaplain to foreign students says the Education Ministers' recommendation was made with a total lack of consideration or feeling for the situation of the people affected.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 30 July 1981)

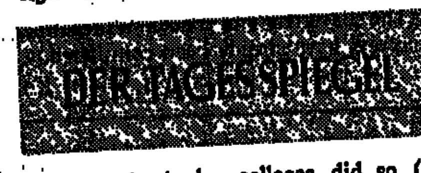
Migrant children caught in a cultural no man's land

Migrant workers' children in the Federal Republic of Germany and West Berlin, second- and third-generation immigrants, have trouble with the language, at school and in finding jobs and leisure activities.

Public opinion is well aware of these practical difficulties; it fails to appreciate the enormous mental burden on young people who grow up between two civilisations.

But let me begin with a few figures:

- In 1968 about 30,000 children were born to foreign families in the Federal Republic; last year the number was over 100,000.
- Fifty per cent of foreign schoolchildren, as against 15 per cent of their German counterparts, fail to pass school-leaving certificates. Very few go on to high school.
- Last year only 44 per cent of foreign school-leavers who should have gone on to trades colleges did so (as against about 90 per cent of Germans).
- Roughly three out of four employed foreign juveniles work as unskilled or semi-skilled workers.



These are alarming figures when one bears in mind what a threat to social stability such a large and growing group of underprivileged youngsters can be.

Language difficulties are invariably put forward as the main reason why young foreigners have such trouble with integration, but they cannot be all that serious a factor.

Second- and third-generation immigrant children almost always speak German. They often speak even the local dialect.

Their real difficulties are mostly in the mind, and apparent even in early childhood. They are the problems of children caught midway between two civilisations, two languages, two mentalities.

An 18-year-old Turkish girl says: "I think in German but feel in Turkish; I can't stand it any longer."

A German woman teacher has noted: "Foreigners are in the majority in my class and it has struck me that they have the same behavioural hang-ups and learning trouble as German classes for the educationally sub-normal."

Giorgio Langella, an Italian, and Brigitte Weiss, a German, are teachers in Freiburg. They are co-authors of a book entitled *Kinder aus dem Süden* (Children from the South).

It makes stimulating and provocative reading. The first point is that adults who decide to leave their own country and start a fresh and better life with their families elsewhere do so deliberately They have at least thought it over and come to a conclusion that satisfies them. But the same cannot be said of their children.

The children have to accept decisions that upset them and they are not always able to understand. Besides, being uprooted is much worse for a child than for an adult.

It causes anxiety and insecurity, at times even rebellion or alienation. Once this point is taken, the answers to many questions are self-evident.

The shock of being forcibly exposed to an alien culture can have lasting repercussions, as educationalist Barbara Puhan-Schulz has noted in an inteview:

"A small Turkish boy, addressed in Turkish by a teacher, has been known to reply: 'I don't understand Turkish. What was it you said?' (in Turkish!).

"A small Greek girl may suddently pretend at kindergarten not to know the Greek she normally speaks at home with her parents."

She concludes that migrant workers' children frequently deny their identity in order to gain recognition.

So it is as well that attention is now

Continued on page 14

■ DATA PROTECTION

Doubts over safeguards in youth survey

An opinion poll organisation has run into criticism over a survey it is making among young people.

The survey is to find out what the young think about their society, but the nature of the questions has led to doubts about how secret the data are.

Drugs figure prominently, and questions relate to their availability and frequency of use both by the respondent and friends.

The Infratest Opinion Research Institute, which is sending out the questionnaires, maintains that secrecy is guaranteed.

But Bonn Commissioner for Protection against Data Abuse Hans-Peter Bull is wary of the practice.

The questions are detailed:

- At what age did you (the familiar *du* is used throughout) first try drugs?
- How often have you taken them since that first try?
- How long is it since you last took narcotics?
- Can you get drugs within 24 hours?
- Do your close friends and acquaintances take drugs?

The questionnaires close with a request to return them in the enclosed reply-paid envelope, saying: "You need not give your name and address."

It is unlikely that any of the youngsters who receive the 12-page paper would have done so anyway.

More likely, they would have checked *their replies again and in doing so they* would have seen that the top of page one carries a code number that enables the Institute to check who has answered the questions.

If no reply has been received after a while, a reminder is sent to the potential



respondent — again carrying a code number and reading: "Last week, we sent you a questionnaire with the request to fill it in and return it to us.

"Since we have not yet heard from you, we would like to remind you of our research project and would appreciate your returning the filled-in questionnaire, which we once more enclose."

In the same letter, the would-be respondent is assured that "your name was picked at random and all provisions on protection against data abuse have been strictly observed. You can therefore rest assured that your name and address can in no way be linked with your replies."

A Cologne man had his doubts and wrote to Professor Bull, telling him about the opinion research drive.

The commissioner told the Cologne daily *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger* that he was chary about the whole thing and that it was essential to ensure that all information linking the respondent with the code number be deleted immediately after the paper was returned.

Professor Bull: "It would be disastrous if a link could be established."

The commissioner wants to refer the matter to Bavaria's Ministry of the Interior (*under whose jurisdiction the* Infratest Institute falls) with the request that this point be looked into.

The commissioner also says that the Bonn Family Affairs Ministry, which commissioned the survey, must step in should it turn out that privacy rights are being violated.

The Ministry, on the other hand, rejects all responsibility, saying: "We cannot concern ourselves with every little detail."

Bonn pays one-third of the cost of the survey and the *Länder* the rest.

Some 2,000 young people in North Rhine-Westphalia were polled during the past few weeks and the results are expected to be available in mid-1982. (The Bavarian and Baden-Württemberg surveys have already been completed.)

The head of the project, Dieter Korczak, told the *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger* that secrecy was watertight.

The reminder letter, he said, was necessary to obtain as many replies as possible and to improve the accuracy of the survey. "As soon as the questionnaires are received here, the address is deleted."

Herr Korczak also tried to dispel doubts about the questions themselves, as for instance: "How do you assess our social order?" With the following answers given as possibles: "Good or good except for a few points;" or "In need of reform in most points," or "So bad that it should be changed completely."

According to Korczak, this was necessary to obtain as comprehensive a picture as possible.

Another question that has come under fire is that concerning income. It reads: "If you add up everything the people in your household earn, in other words, salary and other income less taxes, what would be the approximate net income of the household? If you don't know, give an estimate."

Korczak rejects all objections to this question. He has also announced that the Institute would take action against the *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger's* critical article in a recent issue.

Asked what he meant by action, Korczak said: "We'll send you our version of the story to clarify our own stand."

A somewhat jittery reaction by a man who claims that everything regarding data provisions is watertight.

Michael Brandt

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 31 July 1981)

Payment details no secret, says report

Municipal welfare agencies are violating the privacy of hundreds of thousands of people, a broadcast by *Süddeutscher Rundfunk* (SDR) has disclosed.

According to the radio station, the welfare agencies provide full information in their bank transfer slips as to the purpose of the money, such as "social welfare", "food subsidy", "basic telephone charge", etc.

This practice, which has meanwhile been confirmed by the State Agency for the protection Against Data Abuse, violates the constitutionally guaranteed "social secrecy" provisions.

According to the data abuse commissioner, there are only very few reasons that permit a departure from the Secrecy Act — and money transfers are not one of them.

There is no reason why transfers could not use such references as "our letter of ...".

Radio SDR also claims to have learned that the Baden-Württemberg transfer practice is also used in other states.

Hesse's commissioner for protection against data abuse, Spiros Simitis, is also looking into the practice. *dpa*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 August 1981)

Migrant children

Continued from page 13

being paid to such problems and attempts are being made at kindergarten to probe difficulties that may affect foreign children's entire lives.

A five-year experiment launched in 1979 and financed by the Bonn government and the city of West Berlin is scheduled to cost DM11.2m.

Maybe psychiatric assistance will one day be generally available to help young foreigners to integrate. It certainly isn't yet, and the need is urgent.

Statistics sound an alarming note and, as one small Italian boy has written:

"It is tough being an Italian here. We have a lot to stomach. We have next to no friends. Mum and dad are worried and hectic. But we must stick it out."

Vincenzo Arena

(Der Tagesspiegel, 1 August 1981)

4m names on the register

The West Berlin-based Central Register that comes under the ... ty of the chief federal prosecutor ... tains the personal data of some ... million Germans.

Chief Prosecutor Kurt Rebmann ... the press that it passes on data ... times a day on average.

Some 5,700 items are added ... cally every day from Germany alone.

The Register, begun in 1971, ... all criminal acts. It is naturally ... computerised.

It contains also the names of ... who have been made wards of court ... a number of other official rulings.

The Register also issues good conduct certificates for private individuals ... available to all security agencies, in... ing foreign security agencies.

But Chief Prosecutor Rebmann ... stressed that one of the Register's ... tions is to inform citizens about the ... formation the data bank as stored ... them.

The Register issues 650,000 ... conduct certificates a month, and ... year — it provided 12,000 items of ... formation to foreign agencies. The ... dency here is rising.

Herr Rebmann attributes this ... stepped-up international cooperation ... combating crime.

Incidentally, the number of Germans ... sentenced by foreign courts ... around 10,000 to 12,000 a year ... shows no sign of changing.

But there is no connection be... the number of foreign court sen... for Germans and the popularity ... country with German tourists.

In 1980, Switzerland passed 1,... Belgium 1,885, Holland 1,8.. Austria ... 1,716 and France 1,136 sentences against German citizens. During the same year ... such favourite vacation countries ... Spain accounted for 43 sentences, ... for 37 and Portugal for only 21.

But these statistics only prove that the ... flow of information given to the Central Register varies from country to country. They do not prove the actual number ... sentences passed.

These data also say little about the ac... tual criminality of Germans abroad ... cause they contain only court senten... that have been reported.

There are no data on such trivial ... liday offences such as speeding.

Ulf G. Stuberger

(Der Tagesspiegel, 31 July 1981)

One man's home

Continued from page 12

occupied, and no matter what the ... side temperature, it is always cosy in... — both winter and summer. The ... storey building is heated by a ... tiled stove.

But what about the construction ...

Says architect Richard J. Dittrich: ... though we used only the best of ma... rials, the price was ridiculously low. ... building cost less than DM300... compared with a normal cost ... DM450,000."

The Rosenheim Institute is ... planning to build a whole village ... Marburg along the same lines, and ... cheaply. The 60 village houses ... only half the regular price tag.

Wulf Peters

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 2 August 1981)

SPORT

Records fall, but organisation problems plague world games for deaf

...he fourteenth world games for the deaf, held with Olympic flourish at ...gendorf Stadium, Cologne, did not ...p to expectations.

...edrich Waldow of the German ...s association for the deaf, the organ... had promised the games would ... perfection. They were not. There ... organisational troubles from start ...ish.

...til two years ago, however, Iran was ...sed to be hosting them. Then ...any offered to step in, to be on the ...side.

...he host country's competitors, on ...other hand, had made more intensive preparations than ever before. But ... hopes too were sadly disappointed ...any cases.

...here are over 700 deaf playing ...mbers of 124 sports clubs affiliated ...the host association.

...he German soccer team was not expecting to lose to Britain or the Soviet ...ion but it did, finishing fifth and out ...the running for either the final or the ...y-off for third place.

...he handball team had trained hard, ...h a course in Hamburg, then a fixture against Norway in Oslo, then another course, and finally a week in a camp at ...logne immediately before the games.

...But after such lavish preparations the ...am lost 22-15 to Italy, beat Denmark ...3-14 and rapped Switzerland 23-8 to ...ualify for the semi-final.

...They did so because of a second place ...heir group and the better goal average, or so they thought. But the rules ...changed.

"I was the Danes who told us about ...new ruling," said Wolfgang Schmidt, ... team captain. Neither the coach nor ... squad had been told by their own ...icials.

The team were so disappointed they decided to go home early, but reconsidered when it occurred to them that that would only make matters worse.

Otherwise the performance of the deaf had much in common with international ratings in general, with the United States ahead of the Soviet Union in the athletics and swimming events.

In the long-distance events Timo Karvonen of Finland made all the running, while in table tennis the Japanese made short shrift of their opponents.

In the women's event, however, the GDR girls came runners-up to Japan. And in wrestling the Iranians reigned supreme.

In the track events Rita Windbrake of Gemany was outstanding, winning the 400, 800 and 1,500 metres and helping the 100 and 400 metres relay teams to second place.

A 35-year-old Cologne woman, she was the most successful woman athlete at the games, as she had been on previous occasions.

In the medal stakes the United States finished ahead of the Soviet Union, while Germany, which four years ago in Bucharest came third, was relegated to No. 7, but still well ahead of the GDR.

But appearances are deceptive. The East Germans sent a squad of a mere dozen to Cologne, entering only for table tennis and athletics events.

Even so, one of the GDR women finished last in her 100 metres heat, which is something not often seen in international tournaments.

Yet the games were taken seriously enough. Alexander Potopalski of the Soviet Union, who came third in the decathlon, passed the hearing test (he couldn't) but failed the drug test (he was). Disqualified.

Records fell like ninepins, though. On the first day's swimming new world records for the deaf were set up in all six finals.

The trend was impressive and can be attributed to more intensive traning and improved methods. But the more technical the event was, the greater the gap.

In the hammer a throw of 51.34 metres, or 168ft 6in, was enough to ensure victory. But the 30 minutes 24.87 seconds for the 10,000 metres was extremely good.

It certainly was for a deaf man, since the deaf have trouble with their equilibrium and are less able even to run straight ahead.

Better standards were accompanied by a greater show of self-assurance. The deaf no longer wanted to be limited to the role of a meek minority.

Who could blame them for being annoyed at the Bonn President refusing for no reason he cared to state to open the games? Who could blame them for being upset at being reminded day by day that they were very much out on a limb, with an enormous and almost empty sports stadium all to themselves?

But the deaf are keen on the opportunities sport presents, so a European sports federation for the deaf was set up in Cologne.

"Sport," says Bernd Rehling, a Bremen teacher of the deaf, "is the most important cultural activity they have."

Theatre and concerts, the pictures, records and TV are obviously to a large extent ruled out.

The deaf competitors, their team staff and fans from roughly 40 countries made the Cologne games a festival of joie de vivre. They were determined to make a go of it.

Fifty years ago the third international games for the deaf and dumb were held in Nuremberg. "Never," a report noted, "have there been such hard-working athletes so willing to subordinate themselves as these."

Times have changed. "We want no sympathy," says handball captain Wolfgang Schmidt, who is one of the few to break out of the isolation and qualify as a graduate social worker.

In a world that is growing steadily less capable of communication the deaf are determined to make themselves heard more forcibly. *Herbert Fischer*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 August 1981)

Continued from page 10

...e been in progress at Rusafa, an early ...ristian place of pilgrimage in the ...th Syrian desert, since 1952.

...In 1958 research on early civilisations ...s resumed with the dig at Tell Chueira. ...Since 1963 German archaeologists ...e been associated with the international bid to rescue historic monuments ...the Euphrates Dam area.

...Several other projects have dealt with ... Islamic period, such as excavations ...the Omayyad desert fort of Usais or ...ebel Seis.

...There has also been the survey of ...meluke architecture in Syria and Lebanon and, since 1975, the study of topographical developments in Damascus.

...The opening of a Damascus office is ...e to boost further the participation of ...erman research staff in work on Syrian ...history.

...In Germany itself scientific publications have been flanked by a number of exhibitions that have focussed the attention of a wider public on the history of ...s region.

...Exhibitions have, in particular, dealt ...th the history of the Nabataeans in ...arious cities.

...Next year a major touring exhibition ... Syrian works of art from all periods ... history is to be shown in Berlin and ...other German cities. *Wilhelm Kordt*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 July 1981)

Piquet wins German grand prix

Nelson Piquet of Brazil was not meant to win the German grand prix at Hockenheim.

Two weeks before, he had crashed during the British grand prix at Silverstone. Agency reports said that a fracture of the left shin would keep him out for the rest of the world championship.

Piquet showed them to be mistaken. He was smiling as he passed the chequered flag in first place at Hockenheim in his Brabham, ahead of Alain Prost (France) in a Renault.

The win leaves Piquet second in the drivers championship with 35 points, eight points behind the leader, Carlos Reutemann.

The reigning world champion, Australian Alan Jones, finished 11th after car trouble had deprived him of the lead.

Jones is in 4th place in the championship with 24 points, a point behind third-placed Jacques Laffite of France, who was third at Hockenheim in his Talbot-Liegier.

Piquet's real name is Souto Maior. He took a pseudonym because his father is a public figure in Brazil, a member of congress.

Referring to his injury, Piquet said it wasn't a fracture. It was "just a slight bruise of the left knee. I was able to limber up for Hockenheim by sailing off Monte Carlo."

Piquet moved into the lead with six laps to go to the end of the 305.46-km (191-mile) grand prix. He overtook Jones, who had tyre and ignition trouble.

The Australian's tyre trouble grew worse from lap to lap. Goodyear were back in Formula One after several months' interval and their new treads were the problem.

But Jones, driving somewhat recklessly, was too confident by far, waving gaily to the crowd as he drove past the stands — until his trouble started.

With four laps to go he blew his top, however, after developing ignition trouble in addition to the trouble with his tyres.

He fell back lap by lap, then came into the pits. When his mechanics were unable to fix the trouble he drove angrily past the photographers, who scattered for cover, with his hood open.

Then he noticed what he had forgotten, braked and stopped to have the bonnet put back in position.

His team-mate Carlos Reutemann of Argentina had to call it a day in the 28th lap. In the pre-race warm-up his Williams had lost water and Keith Duckworth, constructor of the Cosworth engine, had looked far from happy.

Reutemann is still in the world championship running but the Williams had a bad day out, watched by a Hockenheim crowd estimated at 100,000.

So did the Ferraris. Villeneuve of Canada finished 10th while Pironi of France retired in the first lap with engine trouble.

But the engine was not the Ferraris' problem; it was the chassis. Enzo Ferrari, 82, says his designers are to blame, having built a Baroque car, not an aerodynamic one.

"Amateurs!" snorts the Commander disgust.

The Renault Turbo had trouble too, much as expected. Arnoux had to come in to the pits in the first lap with tyre trouble. In the summer heat he was unable to regain the lost ground.

Slim Bugerudd, 34, of Sweden took it easy in his German ATS, overtaxing neither the engine nor the tyres, just as he had been told by his British team manager Alastair Caldwell.

But Bugerudd, who plays drums with Abba, the Swedish pop group, was still unlucky. He too had to retire with engine trouble in the 38th lap.

No German drivers took part, although Formula Two specialist Manfred Winkelhock, 28, wanted to compete, driving the No. 2 ATS.

But two factors ruled him out. Formula One regulations told against him. So did poor coordination between those who wanted to see him take part.

Formula One regulations specify that only 30 vehicles can take part in training. In Winkelhock's case an exception would have had to be made because 30 had already been entered.

But the authorities who might have been able to help failed to reach agreement. Automobilclub von Deutschland, the grand prix organisers, were no help.

Neither was Günter Schmidt, the owner of the ATS equipe. "I am doing nothing more in this matter," he announced.

Nor was Rudolf Henle of Liqui-Moly, Winkelhock's sponsor in the Formula Two national championships.

Britain's Bernie Ecclestone, head of the Formula One Constructors' Association, had already given his permission for Winkelhock to take part in the practice runs as No. 31. "There are no problems," he said.

But M. Balestre of France, representing the international racing authority, disagreed. "Impossible, quite out of the question," he said.

Otorino Maffazzoli of Italy, the international motor racing commissioner responsible for Hockenheim, threatened to disqualify the German grand prix as a world championship event if there were to be any irregularity in connection with the German driver. *Klaus Blume*

(Die Welt, 3 August 1981)